# **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

#### SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON Civil Action No.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 03 MDL 1570 (GBD)

FIONA HAVLISH, in her own right

and as Executrix of the ESTATE OF DONALD G. HAVLISH, JR., Deceased, et al.,

Plaintiffs, v.

USAMA BIN LADEN, : CIVIL ACTION NO. 03-CV-9848 -RCC

: Case Transferred from the United AL QAEDA/ISLAMIC ARMY,

an unincorporated association, et al : States District Court for the

: District of Columbia

FOREIGN STATE DEFENDANTS, : Case Number 1:02CV00305

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, ALI AKBAR HASHEMI RAFSANJANI Previously Identified and Served as

Unidentified Terrorist 1,

**IRANIAN MINISTRY OF** INFORMATION AND SECURITY,

**SECOND AFFIDAVIT OF** THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY KENNETH R. TIMMERMAN re: EXPERT TESTIMONY

GUARD CORPS,

HIZBALLAH, an unincorporated association,

TANKER CORPORATION

THE IRANIAN MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM,

THE NATIONAL IRANIAN

Previously identified as Unidentified Terrorist 2,:

THE NATIONAL IRANIAN OIL CORPORATION,

THE NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY

Previously Identified as Unidentified Terrorist 4,:

IRAN AIRLINES

Previously Identified as Unidentified Terrorist 5,:

THE NATIONAL IRANIAN

PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY

Previously Identified as Unidentified Terrorist 6, :

IRANIAN MINISTRY OF

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE

IRANIAN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE,

IRANIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

AND ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS,

THE CENTRAL BANK OF THE

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, et al.

Previously Identified as Unidentified Terrorist 7,:

Defendants.

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# Second Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman re: Expert Testimony

I, **Kenneth R. Timmerman**, being duly sworn, do hereby swear and affirm under penalty of perjury that the contents of this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. Similarly, I have read the allegations contained in the *Havlish* **Third Amended Complaint**, and I believe they are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

#### **Qualifications of the Witness**

1. See First Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman re: the Havlish Investigation re: Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001 at ¶¶ 1-30 and 114-129.

# The Iran-Palestinian Connection and the Creation of *Hizballah* in Lebanon

- 2. It is my expert opinion that the Islamic Republic of Iran, a Shiite country, has always considered terrorism to be a legitimate tool of foreign policy, and has, for decades, been consistently willing to work with Sunni Muslim leaders and militia groups in terrorist operations. Since its inception, the Islamic Iranian regime has consistently used such Sunni organizations as terrorist proxies to carry out important elements of Iran's foreign policy agenda.
- 3. Those relationships had roots beginning in the 1970s, became Iranian regime policy in the 1980s as **Iran** allied with **Palestinian** groups and created the terrorist organization *Hizballah* in Lebanon, and expanded in the 1990s to include **Egyptian Islamic** *Jihad*, a variety of **Afghan** *mujahedin* **groups**, the **Bosnian Muslims**, the **Taliban** and **al Qaeda** and they continue to this day.
- 4. As I will show in this affidavit, Iran's leaders are quite capable of supporting a given group one day, then arming its opponents the next as Iran's tactical goals shift.
- 5. The founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, **Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini**, had a close personal relationship with **Yasser Arafat**, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). During the 1970s, future Iranian revolutionaries, including

Ayatollah Khomeini's son Ahmad, trained with PLO forces in Lebanon. Arafat was the first foreign "leader" to visit Iran once Khomeini seized power in 1979.

- 6. The early ties mentioned above are illustrated by photographs taken by the Iranian photographer "Reza" (a renowned National Geographic master photographer; winner of the Hope Prize with UNICEF; awarded the *Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite*, France's highest civilian honor) in Lebanon in the late 1970s. They show **Ahmad Khomeini**, the former Supreme Leader's son, training with PLO guerillas and Cuban military trainers in Lebanon before the Iranian revolution of 1978-1979. Ex. B-1.

  "Reza" gave me an entire series of these photographs, subtitled in Farsi, and allowed me to use them in my 1987 book, <u>Fanning the Flames: Guns, Greed and Geopolitics in the</u> Gulf War.<sup>1</sup>
- 7. During the years immediately preceding the Islamic Revolution in Iran, **Seyed Ali Mousavi-Khamenei** Iran's current Supreme Leader served as the liaison between **Ayatollah Khomeini** from his place of exile in Najaf, Iraq, and the revolutionaries receiving training at Palestinian camps in Lebanon.
- 8. After the Shah left Iran on January 6, 1979, **Khamenei** coordinated PLO aid to the Iranian revolution. That aid reportedly included the dispatch of PLO guerillas to Tehran to take part in some of the key military battles on February 11 and 12, 1979, the night of the "putsch" that toppled the provisional government of Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The book was syndicated by *New York Times* Syndication Sales, with chapters appearing in Dutch, French, Norwegian, Portuguese and other languages. However, the only complete edition of the book was published by a small German-language publisher in Switzerland under the title: *Ol ins Feuer*, (*Orell Füssli*, Zurich, 1988).

- 9. On November 4, 1979, the students' group known as the "Students Following the Line of the Imam" seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took 52 U.S. diplomats hostage. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance then wrote to Arafat, who the United States shunned as a terrorist at that time, entreating him to use his influence with Khomeini to get the hostages freed.<sup>2</sup>
- 10. In 1982, the **leadership of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, including in particular then prime minister **Mir Hossein Mousavi** and **Hojjat-ol eslam Ali Akbar Mohtashemi**, decided to set up a proxy organization in Lebanon called *Hizballah*, or "Party of God."<sup>3</sup>
- 11. Among the early leaders of *Hizballah* was a Lebanese Shiite named Abbas Mousavi, a distant cousin of Mir Hossein Mousavi.
- 12. Soon after Israel invaded Lebanon on June 6, 1982, Iran dispatched an expeditionary force of its **Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)** to Lebanon to train the initial *Hizballah* fighters and to assist the PLO resist the Israeli invasion. IRGC troops seized control of the Sheikh Abdallah army barracks from the Lebanese Army in the Bekaa Valley and set up camps inside the ancient Roman ruins in nearby Baalbek, including the famous Temple of Jupiter.
- 13. At the time of *Hizballah's* founding in 1982, the relationship between the **Shiite** Islamic Republic of Iran and the predominantly **Sunni** Palestine Liberation Organization of Yasser Arafat was still close enough that Ayatollah Khomeini called on Iraqi leader

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Alan Hart, <u>Arafat: Terrorist or Peacemaker?</u> (Sidgwick & Jackson, London: 1984) at p. 378.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mir Hossein Mousavi ran for president in June 2009, and the popular belief that the regime committed massive fraud to steal the election from him led to widespread disturbances across Iran.

Saddam Hussein, a Sunni, to cease the ongoing Iran-Iraq war, which had been raging since September 20, 1980, and join forces with Iran in dispatching troops to Lebanon to fight on the PLO side against the Israeli invasion. (Saddam, a secular leader without significant religious ties, declined the invitation and continued to fight Iran.)

- 14. In keeping with this long-standing relationship, when Iran's newly formed *Hizballah* organization needed experienced terrorist operatives, it turned to **Yasser Arafat** for assistance. When Arafat was forced by Israel to leave Lebanon in August 1982, *Hizballah* recruited a former member of Arafat's "Force 17" praetorian guard, a young Lebanese Shiite named **Imad Fayez Mughniyah**, to join their ranks. Mughniyah soon became *Hizballah's* chief of military (*i.e.*, terrorist) operations a position which he continued until his death in February 2008.
- 15. On April 18, 1983, working with other *Hizballah* operatives, and most likely with the help of members of Syrian intelligence and the IRGC stationed in the Bekaa Valley, **Mughniyah** directed a terrorist operation in which a truck bomb destroyed the **U.S. Embassy in Beirut**, killing 63 persons, including CIA Assistant Deputy Director for Mideast Operations, Robert Ames, and five other CIA officers who had traveled from around the Middle East to meet with him. I was in Beirut at the time and I was one of the first Western journalists to arrive on the scene of the attack. A young U.S. Embassy press officer named Ryan Crocker emerged from the still smoldering ruins and, covered in dust from the blast, briefed me and other reporters on what had just happened.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ryan Crocker became U.S. ambassador to Iraq in 2007. I have attached my front page story on the U.S. Embassy blast from *USA Today* as Ex. A-1 to the First Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman *re*: the *Havlish* Investigation.

- 16. On or about September 26, 1983, the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) intercepted a message sent from Iranian intelligence headquarters in Tehran to **Hojjat-ol eslam Ali Akbar Mohtashemi**, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus. The message instructed Mohtashemi to activate the *Hizballah* network to launch "a spectacular action against the United States Marines" then stationed in Beirut, Lebanon. Iran did not have an ambassador in Lebanon at the time, so Mohtashemi coordinated *Hizballah* operations and finances out of Damascus, Syria.
- 17. A few weeks later, on Sunday, October 23, 1983, two truck bombs simultaneously demolished the U.S. Marines barracks at the Beirut airport and the headquarters of the French paratroopers in Beirut, killing 241 Marines and more than 60 French soldiers. I had been on a reporting assignment with the Marines just one week earlier and returned to Lebanon one week after the bombings to report on the investigation and the aftermath.
- 18. For reasons that have never been elucidated fully, the commander of the U.S. Marines in Beirut, Colonel Tim Geraghty, was never briefed on the intercepted Iranian communication before the attack. Neither was then Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Rear Admiral James "Ace" Lyons, who learned of the intercept only after the simultaneous truck bombings.
- 19. Much later, I learned about the intercept from Rear Admiral Lyons, who, in March 2003, hand-delivered a sealed copy of the intercept to U.S. District Court Judge Royce C. Lamberth, who at that time was hearing the case *Peterson*, *et al. v. Islamic*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Peterson, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran, CA 1:01-cv-02094-RCL (D.D.C. May 30, 2003), Memorandum Opinion at 12, cited by Kenneth R. Timmerman in Countdown to Crisis: The Coming Nuclear Showdown with Iran (Crown Forum 2005), pp. 22-23.

Republic of Iran, CA 1:01-cv-02094-RCL (D.D.C. May 30, 2003), a civil lawsuit against Iran on behalf of the victims of the Marine barracks bombing. Ex. B-2.

- 20. On November 16, 1983, I was in the mountains in northern Lebanon when French Super-Etendard fighter jets streaked overhead, heading for the Lebanese interior. I recognized the fighter jets and knew from news reports that they had been deployed on a French carrier off the coast in the Mediterranean Sea. I was surprised to see them, and I noted that they flew unaccompanied by any U.S. aircraft.
- 21. I learned later that day, after returning to Beirut, that I had witnessed a failed retaliatory mission against the Sheikh Abdallah barracks in Baalbek, the headquarters of *Hizballah* and their Iranian Revolutionary Guards trainers. The mission killed only a shepherd and a few goats.
- 22. In 2003, after Rear Admiral Lyons revealed the existence of the intercept from 1983, I interviewed former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John W. Vessey, former Navy Secretary John Lehman, and others, in order to tell the complete story of the botched retaliation raid, which the U.S. did not join, and of the Iranian involvement in the attack on the U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut. Those interviews corroborated much of the information I had learned in Lebanon twenty years earlier, and enhanced my understanding of the extent of U.S. Government knowledge of the direct terrorist threat from Iran at that time. 6
- 23. From Iranian sources of mine, who have proven to be reliable and who I know to have access to information and access to a top Iranian regime official who was personally

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Kenneth R. Timmerman, ""Invitation to September 11," INSIGHT magazine, January 6, 2004; and Countdown to Crisis, pp. 19-26, "The Intercept."

involved in the planning of the 1983 attacks, I learned that Iran's goal in attacking the U.S. Embassy and, especially the U.S. Marines and French paratroopers, was to force the United States and the Multinational Forces then stationed in Lebanon to withdraw, giving Iran and its *Hizballah* proxy free reign to expand and control the territory.

- 24. The U.S. did, in fact, withdraw from Lebanon in February 1984, as a direct result of these attacks.
- 25. These Iranian sources also told me that the commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps, Major General Mohsen Rezai, boasted in the mid-1990s that Iran forced the United States to leave Lebanon in February 1984 through these attacks.

26.	I also learned from these Iranian sources,
	Imad Mughniyah, that Mughniyah was personally
invol	ved in the planning and operation of all three attacks, which he carried out on direct
order	s from Iran.

# Mughniyah's Terrorist Record

27. My on-the-ground experience in Lebanon from 1982 to 1984 motivated me to continue investigating Iranian-backed terrorism beyond the initial news reports that I wrote. For nearly 30 years since 1982, I have continuously interviewed a wide variety of government and non-governmental sources in Europe, the United States, and the Middle East on the subjects of *Hizballah*, hostage-taking, and Iranian-backed terrorist acts.

- 28. My sources have included recent Iranian exiles who had firsthand knowledge of how the Iranian regime operates, arms dealers in direct contact with Iranian officials, Western and Middle Eastern diplomats, intelligence case officers, analysts, and law enforcement personnel. Among these latter were the two most prominent French investigative judges dealing with Iranian terrorism, Gilles Boulouques, and Jean-Louis Bruguière, who provided me with numerous background briefings. I will summarize some of what I learned from these sources here.
- 29. In December 1983, the end of the same year of the truck bombing of the U.S. Embassy and the simultaneous truck bombings of the U.S. Marine barracks and the French paratroopers headquarters in Beirut, *see* ¶¶ 15-17, *supra*, **Imad Mughniyah's** brother-in-law, Mustapha Badr-el-Din, was involved in a botched attempt to assassinate the Emir of Kuwait. The Iranian regime was furious with the Kuwaitis because of their support for Saddam Hussein in his continuing war against Iran.
- 30. On March 24, 1984, the Kuwaiti authorities sentenced Mustapha Badr-el-Din to death.
- 31. In December 1984, **Mughniyah** coordinated the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner to Tehran in an effort to win Mustapha Badr-el-Din's release. The lead hijacker, a *Hizballah* operative named Abu Haidar Mousavi, "surrendered" to Iran and was given refuge by the Iranian authorities. (Mughniyah himself wasn't on the plane.)
- 32. At the same time, also acting on Iran's orders, **Mughniyah** began kidnapping Western hostages in Lebanon. Among others, Mughniyah and his cadres kidnapped the new CIA station chief in Beirut, William Buckley, on March 16, 1984, ultimately torturing him to death.

- 33. Former hostage David Jacobsen has testified that after Mughniyah's men kidnapped him, he shared a room with William Buckley in the Sheikh Abdallah barracks in Baalbek, the headquarters of Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps contingent in Lebanon. Jacobsen has written that he later understood that his captor was **Mughniyah**, and that he was "the boss of all bosses in the hostage operations."
- 34. On the morning of June 14, 1985, two Lebanese *Hizballah* members stormed the cockpit of TWA flight 847 after its departure from Athens, Greece, bound for Rome, Italy, and hijacked the aircraft.
- 35. During a stopover at the Beirut airport, one of the hijackers murdered a passenger, 23-year old U.S. Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem, and dumped his body onto the tarmac as international TV cameras were rolling.
- 36. The FBI subsequently discovered fingerprints in the rear lavatory of the aircraft. Lebanese authorities identified the fingerprints as belonging to **Imad Fayez Mughniyah** and supplied the FBI with a copy of the Lebanese passport that had been issued to him on September 7, 1984. In 1988, an intelligence analyst from a European country gave me a copy of this passport and several other photographs of Mughniyah that I published in my confidential newsletter, MEDNEWS. See Ex. A-2 to First Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman re: the Havlish Investigation.
- 37. Based on the FBI investigation of the TWA flight 847 hijacking, federal prosecutors issued a sealed indictment of **Imad Fayez Mughniyah** for the murder of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> David Jacobson, <u>Hostage: My Nightmare in Beirut</u> (Donald I. Fine, Inc. 1991), pp. 40-41, 45; 187.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Imad Mughniyah: the Real Story," Middle East Defense News (MEDNEWS), May 2, 1988.

Robert Dean Stethem that became the basis for the FBI's "MOST WANTED" notice on Mughniyah. Mughniyah remained on the FBI's "MOST WANTED" list right up until his death in 2008.

- 38. In the 1990s, **Mughniyah** shifted focus from Lebanon to launch a series of dramatic international operations on Iran's behalf.
- 39. On March 17, 1992, a *Hizballah* strike team under **Mughniyah's** command used a truck bomb to destroy the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 29 people and wounding 242 others.
- 40. On July 1994, a follow-on attack against the Argentine Israeli Mutual Association (AMIA) building in Buenos Aires killed 86 persons. U.S. and Israeli intelligence sources believe **Mughniyah** entered Argentina shortly before the AMIA bombing to activate the sleeper networks that carried out the attack.
- 41. Argentinean prosecutors Alberto Nisman and Marcelo Martinez Burgos issued eight arrest warrants on October 25, 2006 in relation to the July 1994 attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires that killed 86 persons. The warrants were for former MOIS minister Ali Fallahian; former president Ali Akbar Rafsanjani; former foreign minister Ali Akbar Velayati; former IRGC commander Mohsen Reza; former Qods Force commander Ahmad Vahidi; a former Iran embassy employee, Ahmad Reza Asghari (a/k/a Mohsen Randjbaran); Mohsen Rabbani, who ran an Iranian cultural

center in Buenos Aires and was later given diplomatic immunity by the Iranian embassy in Argentina; and **Imad Mughniyah**.

- 42. In their 801-page prosecution report, Nisman and Burgos stated that "the attack against the AMIA center was decided and organized by the highest ranks of the Islamic Republic of Iran government that was ruling then, who themselves entrusted the execution of the criminal act to the Lebanese Terrorist organization *Hizballah*." Ex. B-14, p. 1.
- 43. The decision to bomb the AMIA center was taken by **Khamenei, Rafsanjani, Velayati**, and **Fallahian** the "*Omur-e Vijeh*" or Special Matters committee on August

  14, 1993 in Mashad, the Argentinian prosecutors explained. Also called to the meeting

  as "consultants" were **Mohzen Rezai** and **Ahmad Vahidi** from the IRGC, as well as **Mohsen Rabbani** and **Ahmad Reza Asgari**, who were both employees at the time at the

  Iranian embassy in Buenos Aires.
- 44. "[T]he preliminary plan to attack our country had its origin in the "Intelligence Office" that depends on the Presidential office and [was] headed by Rafsanjani himself," and was then handed to the IRGC *al Qods* force for execution, Nisman and Burgos wrote. *Id. at p.* 6.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In response to intense lobbying by the Iranian government, INTERPOL agreed to remove Rafsanjani and Velayati from the suspect list, but issued Red Notices for the six others.

- 45. In November 2007, INTERPOL issued "Red Notices" for **Imad Mughniyah** and five top Iranian government officials at the request of the Government of Argentina, for involvement in planning and executing the July 1994 AMIA bombing.
- 46. In summary, although Mughniyah was for many years the lead terrorist operative for Iran's terrorist proxy, Hizballah, still, it was the MOIS and the IRGC *Qods* Force that coordinated terrorist operations with the Supreme Leader's office and a small group of top Iranian decision-makers.

### Mughniyah meets Osama bin Laden and Ayman al Zawahiri

- 47. In 1991-1992, the Islamic Republic of Iran leadership established a new organization, known *al Majma' al Alami lil-Taqrib bayna al Madhahib al Islamiyyah* (International Institute for Rapprochement Among the Islamic Legal Schools), to promote publicly a reconciliation of the rival Sunni and Shiite Islamic faiths.
- 48. In furtherance of this "strategic plan" to create a united Sunni-Shiite front against the United States and Western culture (of which Israel was considered a part), <sup>11</sup> the Islamic Republic of Iran expanded ties with **Hassan al Turabi**, a prominent **Sunni** Islamist leader in Sudan. As discussed *supra*, such a reconciliation with Sunni groups was consistent with the Islamic Republic of Iran's behavior since its inception in 1979.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Iran's work with Sunni terrorist organizations defied the conventional wisdom of Western intelligence agencies and analysts. Yet, for many years, a special department within the Supreme Leader's office, known as "*Rahman al Rahim*," was devoted to supporting Sunni <u>and</u> Shiite *jihadi* organizations. Since at least 1994, Iran has regularly hosted leaders of HAMAS and other Sunni terrorist organizations in Tehran at annual "Jerusalem Day" celebrations and other special events.

- 49. One emissary the Iranians sent to Sudan in 1991-1992 was IRGC Brigadier General Mohammad Baqr Zolqadr.<sup>12</sup>
- 50. As the official representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, General **Zolqadr** took part in a historic meeting in Khartoum in 1993 with Hassan **al Turabi**, Imad **Mughniyah**, and **Osama bin Laden**.
- 51. Osama bin Laden's former bodyguard and an al Qaeda trainer, **Ali Mohamed**, first revealed the existence of this meeting to the public in a plea allocution on October 27, 2000. Ex. B-3. Ali Mohamed is a former Egyptian army officer who infiltrated U.S. Army Special Forces command in the mid-1980s, and later, became a confidential informant of the FBI (although he was actually a "double agent" during that time and continued reporting to al Qaeda). Ali Mohamed handled security for bin Laden for the Khartoum meeting.<sup>13</sup>
- 52. The Khartoum meeting laid the groundwork for the extensive cooperation between Iran and al Qaeda, which would eventually include training, intelligence, security, facilitation of travel, and safe haven, and which would ultimately lead to the 9/11 attacks.
- 53. At the time of the Khartoum meeting, **Dr. Ayman al Zawahiri** was hailed as a hero within the radical Islamic movements because of his role in the 1981 assassination

By 1996, **Zolqadr** would rise within the IRGC leadership to become a member of the "Special Operations Committee" of top regime leaders who set policy and targets for Iranian-backed terror attacks, former Iranian president Abolhassan Banisadr told me at that time.

Ali Mohammad was ultimately convicted for his role in the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Tanzania and Kenya. In a plea allocution before Judge Leonard B. Sand of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York on October 20, 2000, Ali Mohamed attested to his role in setting up the Khartoum meeting and Osama bin Laden's relationship with Imad Mughniyah.

of Egyptian president Anwar Sadat, the Arab leader who first made peace with Israel.

The Islamic Republic of Iran applauded the Sadat murder, naming a Tehran street after the lead assassin, Khalid Eslambouli.

- 54. During repeated trips to Sudan in the early 1990s as a *de facto* Iranian government representative, **Mughniyah** developed a close personal relationship with **Zawahiri**.
- 55. **Zawahiri**, in turn, regularly visited Iran, where Iran's leaders welcomed him with open arms and an open checkbook. While in Tehran, Zawahiri was the guest of **Ali Fallahian**, Minister of Intelligence and Security, and **Ahmad Vahidi**, the commander of the IRGC's *Qods* force, Iran's foreign terrorist operational group.<sup>14</sup>

# Iran and Hizballah train terrorists for al Qaeda

- 56. Shortly after the 1993 Khartoum meeting, **Osama bin Laden** began to send terrorist operatives to *Hizballah* training camps operated by **Mughniyah** in Lebanon, and to Iran, where they were trained directly by the IRGC.<sup>15</sup>
- 57. In a criminal complaint unsealed on September 26, 1998, relating to the U.S. Embassy bombings in Africa, prosecutors in the Southern District of New York publicly linked Osama bin Laden to the Government of Iran, and alleged the two had conspired to launch terrorist attacks against the United States and U.S. interests worldwide. *USA v. Wadih Hage, et al.*, Affidavit of Daniel Coleman. Much of Coleman's assertion about

The *Qods* Force is the international operations division of the IRGC. "*Qods*" is the Persian word for "Jerusalem" and refers to the goal of delivering the city of Jerusalem to Islamic rule.

9/11 COMMISSION REPORT, pp. 61, 68.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Coleman is a former FBI agent who worked in a unit tracking Osama bin Laden in the 1990's.

Iran's ties to al Qaeda were based on a "Confidential Source" recruited by the FBI in 1996, who was later identified by the 9/11 Commission as **Jamal al Fadl**. Members of al Qaeda were told as early as 1992 that the organization should "put aside its differences with Shiite Muslim terrorist organizations, including the government of Iran," so they could cooperate "against the perceived common enemy, the United States and its allies," al Fadl told the FBI. He made similar comments to the 9/11 Commission.

- 58. **Jamal Ahmed al Fadl** was a confidant of Osama bin Laden during bin Laden's stay in the Sudan, who defected to the United States in the summer of 1996. He provided extensive live testimony in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York during the 2001 trial of the defendants accused of the two U.S. Embassy bombings in East Africa.
- 59. In that trial testimony, **al Fadl** said that Osama bin Laden dispatched terrorists under his command to *Hizballah* camps in Lebanon that were run by Mughniyah and the IRGC, where they learned "how to explosives [*sic*] big buildings." Among them was **Saif al Adel**, a top al Qaeda commander at the time of the 9/11 attacks.<sup>17</sup> Testimony of al-Fadl, pp. 290-91. Ex. B-4.
- 60. In November 1999, Turkish authorities announced that they had arrested a number of al Qaeda terrorists who had entered Turkey from Iran. Some of the arrested men were part of an eight-member team, including four Kurds and two Algerians, all of whom were carrying forged passports that crossed into Turkey from Iran on June 11,

- 1999. Under interrogation, the detainees told the Turks they had trained at camps in Iran and had been sent by Osama bin Laden to carry out terrorist attacks aimed at disrupting the upcoming summit of the Conference on European Cooperation and Security to be held in Turkey. "Bin Ladin operatives trained in Iran," *The Iran Brief*, Nov. 8, 1999.
- 61. In September 2004, I traveled to a European capital with *Havlish* attorney

  Timothy B. Fleming to debrief a former IRGC Colonel, whom I call "Colonel B," who provided us with numerous documents from his 20-year career with the IRGC. *See* ¶¶

  36, 38-39, 90-101, First Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman re: the *Havlish*Investigation. 19
- 62. One of the documents Colonel B showed us indicated that in 1999-2000 the Colonel had been the superintendant of Shahid Mohammad Beglou camp, a military training camp at Sahel-e rouh, approximately 40 kilometers west of Rasht near the port of Anzali on the Caspian Sea.
- 63. Shahid Mohammad Beglou camp specialized in training a variety of terrorist groups loosely affiliated with al Qaeda. Colonel B told us that the Syrians, Lebanese, Azeris, Libyans, Iraqi Arabs, and Iraqi Kurds came to the camp for 60-day training sessions. All of these individuals were Sunni Muslims. The trainees from each group came for 60-day training sessions, and they rarely mixed.

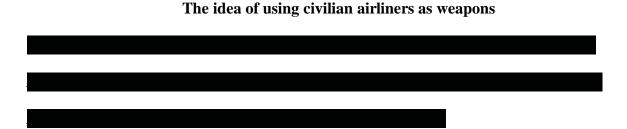
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> I describe this IRGC officer in more detail in my Affidavit *re*: the *Havlish* Investigation, and refer to him as "Colonel B."

For the reasons stated in ¶¶ 38-39 of my First Affidavit, and drawing upon my 30 years of experience and my skills as an investigative journalist in assessing sources' information and credibility, I believe that Colonel B was being truthful with us, and I think that his information is sound and that the documents he showed us are authentic. Although Colonel B ultimately decided not to testify directly, I consider his information to be a substantial value to the *Havlish* investigation and in informing my expert opinion in this case. At the very least, it is valuable background and corroborating information.

- 64. The Colonel told us that the IRGC maintained another separate camp in an especially for Saudi nationals because of their distinct cultural habits and religious practices, which differed even from fellow Sunnis. This separate camp was located in an Iranian-controlled enclave of Iraqi Kurdistan controlled by Iranian intelligence and later, by Abu Musab al Zarqawi. <sup>20</sup>
- 65. Another camp, run by Imad Mughniyah for special recruits Mughniyah spotted during his trips to Afghanistan, was set up in the desert just east of Tehran.

66.			

67. It is my expert opinion that these camps were the active continuation of the military/terrorist-training relationship that was established between Iran and al Qaeda in the Sudan and Lebanon in the early 1990s.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> This Iranian-controlled enclave was a sore point with Iraqi Kurdish leaders. The Prime Minister of the Kurdish Regional Government, Barham Saleh, accused Iranian intelligence officers operating out of this enclave of attempting to assassinate him in 2002. The area was said to be controlled by a group known as *Ansar al Islam*, an al Qaeda affiliate, and was bombed by the United States during the 2003 war.

69.		
70.		
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72.		
12.	•	
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74.
the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT
and a plethora of open source material (and consistent with my debriefing of Colonel B,
see ¶¶ 56-60, $infra$ ), already establishes that Mughniyah, $Hizballah$ , and Iran worked
together to train terrorists in camps in Lebanon and inside Iran.
75. The 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT also places Mughniyah, as the "senior Hezballah
operative," on an airplane bound for Iran with one of the "muscle" hijackers in November
2000, and an "associate" of Mughniyah's on another flight from Beirut to Iran with three
of the "muscle" hijackers in mid-November 2000. Senior Hezballah officials in Beirut
and Iran were known to have been expecting an important group traveling at this time. Ir
all, eight to ten of the fourteen Saudi "muscle" hijackers traveled into or out of Iran
between October 2000 and February 2001. 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT at p. 240. In
addition, the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT states that, in October 2000, Mughniyah, again,
as the "senior operative of Hezbollah," "visited Saudi Arabia to coordinate activities
there. He also planned to assist individuals in Saudi Arabia in traveling to Iran during
November. A top Hezbollah commander and Saudi Hezbollah contacts were involved."
9/11 COMMISSION REPORT at p. 240.
76. ·

- 77. Given the close ties already established by this time between Mughniyah and al Qaeda, and the training of al Qaeda operatives at *Hizballah* camps in Lebanon and in Iran by Mughniyah and the IRGC, it is clear, at the very least, that Mughniyah had ample opportunity and means to teach al Qaeda terrorists how to destroy a large building using a hijacked airliner. In any event, regardless of exactly where and how al Qaeda learned the technique, the 9/11 attack was <u>not</u> the first time al Qaeda attempted to use the tactic.
- In December 1994, Algerian terrorists from the GIA (in English, the "Armed Islamic Group,"), which subsequently became part of al Qaeda, *see* Affidavit of Jean-Louis Bruguière at ¶ 12, hijacked a French airliner on a regular flight from Algiers to Paris. The plane landed in the southern French city of Marseilles to refuel. A French SWAT team successfully stormed the plane, rescuing the hostages and arresting the hijackers. The case was handed over to French counter-terrorism judge Jean-Louis Bruguière.
- 79. Judge Bruguière briefed me on his investigation in late 2001. From the very start, he told me, the hijacking was unusual because the Algerian militants then operating in France were primarily gun-runners fueling a radical Islamic fundamentalist insurrection in Algeria. The hijacking was the first time the GIA had struck France itself.
- 80. As Judge Bruguière broadened his investigation, he convinced British authorities to raid a London safe house belonging to another GIA cell. As a result of that raid, Judge Bruguière discovered written orders to the hijackers revealing that the real goal of the mission had been to crash the aircraft into the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Judge Bruguière

believes this is the first time that al Qaeda terrorists implemented the idea of using civilian airliners as weapons, and he called the attack a "precursor" to 9/11.<sup>21</sup>

## Egypt accuses Iran of training assassins who tried to kill Mubarak

- 81. On July 7, 1995, five men armed with AK-47 assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades opened fire on the motorcade of Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as he was traveling from the airport to attend a conference of the Organization for African Unity.
- 82. In July 1996, the Egyptian authorities arrested 44 Islamists loyal to **Dr. Ayman al Zawahiri**, who they accused of being involved in the attack. One month later, a top advisor to Egyptian president Mubarak, Osama el Baz, accused Iran of having trained the terrorists who were involved in the attack on Mubarak. *See The Iran Brief*, September 7, 1996.
- 83. Mubarak confirmed Iran's involvement in the 1995 attack during an interview with the London-based Arabic newspaper *al Hayat* that appeared in early September 1996. "There is information, the source for which is the confessions of the terrorists who were arrested. They confessed that Iran was involved and that it helped Sudan organize this operation," Mubarak said.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See Kenneth R. Timmerman, "Codes, Clues, and Confessions," READER'S DIGEST, March 2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Mubarak confirms senior adviser's report that Iran backed attack to kill him in Ethiopia," REUTERS, September 17, 1996.

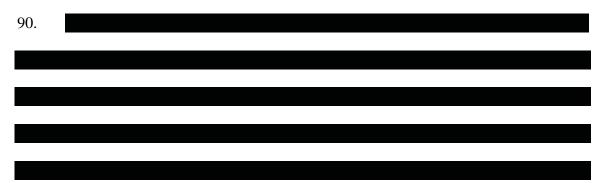
# Iran's responsibility for the Khobar Towers attack

- 84. On June 25, 1996, terrorists exploded a truck bomb outside the walls of the Khobar Towers housing complex in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 U.S. Air Force personnel.
- 85. In testimony before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in 2003, former FBI Director Louis Freeh and his former deputy, Dale Watson, identified the commander of the IRGC *Qods* Force, **General Ahmed Vahidi**, as the man who coordinated the Dhahran attack.<sup>23</sup> I personally listened to and took notes on their testimony in court. The district court found Iran responsible for the Khobar Towers bombing. *See Heiser v. Islamic Republic of Iran*, 466 F. Supp. 2d 229 (D.D.C. 2006).
- 86. Later, the 9/11 Commission examined classified CIA documents establishing that **General Vahidi** planned the attack with Ahmad al Mugassil, a Saudi-born al Qaeda operative 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT at p. 60, footnote 48.
- 87. A former CIA agent who worked inside the IRGC for nearly a decade, Reza Kahlili, told me recently that **General Vahidi** was a key operator in Iran's relationship to al Qaeda, and was undoubtedly involved in the planning of the 9/11 attacks. "Ahmad Vahidi's contacts with al Qaeda went very deep," Kahlili said. "Vahidi met repeatedly with bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al Zawahiri, and collaborated in joint terrorist activities, joint ventures, such as Khobar Towers. He was head of the [IRGC] intelligence unit. He rose to become *Qods* force commander, and last year was appointed minister of defense.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> In November 2007, INTERPOL issued Red Notices for **Ahmed Vahidi** and four other Iranian government officials at the request of the Government of Argentina, for their involvement in planning and executing the July 1994 attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A separate INTERPOL Red Notice was issued for **Imad Mughniyah** in the same case.

He is in charge of the proliferation of arms to these groups, maintaining contact with them, arming them, and directing them."<sup>24</sup>

- 88. One of my sources, an Iranian, whose family member was among the very highest echelon of the Iranian leadership, told me that top IRGC intelligence officials and others involved in the overseas terror apparatus were gathered in the home of then-president Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the evening of the Khobar Towers attack.
- 89. This Iranian source, who has shown himself, to my satisfaction, to be a credible and reliable source, told me that, shortly after the attack, Rafsanjani received a telephone call confirming the success of the terrorist operation. When he put the receiver down, "he smiled and handed out chocolates," my Iranian source said, explaining that handing out chocolates is a sign of good fortune in Iran.



#### Iran provides financing to Osama bin Laden

91. In February 1996, an Iranian Marxist opposition group known as the Organization of the People's *Fedaii* Guerillas of Iran (OPFGI), through a credible and reliable source of mine known as "Bahram" (see ¶¶ 37, 39, 102-113 of my First Affidavit re: the *Havlish* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Interview with former IRGC officer (and CIA double-agent) Reza Kahlili, March 27, 2010. *See also* Kenneth R. Timmerman, "Ex-Agent Chronicles Being CIA's Eyes and Ears in Iran," Newsmax.com, March 30, 2010. Kahlili's memoir, <u>A Time to Betray</u>, was published on April 6, 2010 by Threshhold Editions in New York.

investigation) provided me with documents relating to illegal purchases of embargoed Iraqi oil by the IRGC.

- 92. Top aides to IRGC commander **Major General Mohsen Rezai** negotiated the oil purchases with Iraqi intermediaries in Paris, France. Under the scheme, Iraqi oil tanker trucks monthly brought 30,000 metric tons of diesel fuel and 50,000 metric tons of gasoline to an Iranian border post controlled by the IRGC. The IRGC then took possession of the oil products and sold them at a profit on the international market.<sup>25</sup>
- 93. One of the documents provided to me by the OPFGI was a performance bond dated April 6, 1994 issued by the ASLK-CGER Bank in Brussels, Belgium, on behalf of the IRGC sellers, in favor of the buyer, the *al Shamal* Islamic Bank in Khartoum, Sudan. Ex. B-6.
- 94. Osama bin Laden was a co-founder of the *al Shamal* Islamic Bank, and he capitalized it with \$50 million from his own inheritance.<sup>26</sup>
- 95. The international oil markets are extremely complex, and a high level of confidence is needed to work with partners on black market transactions of this magnitude. Thus, assuming the authenticity of the documents provided to me by the OPFGI and upon careful investigation, I believe they are authentic these documents provide evidence of the depth of the ties that <u>already existed</u> by1994 between Osama bin Laden and the IRGC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "Iran Breaks UN Embargo on Iraq," *The Iran Brief,* April 1, 1996.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> See "Usama Bin Laden: Islamic Extremist Financier," Department of State Fact Sheet, August 14, 1996.

96. It is my <u>expert opinion</u> that this document is evidence that the Government of Iran, through the IRGC, was knowingly engaged in financial transactions with al Qaeda long prior to 9/11, and took steps to keep those ties secret.

#### 1996-1998: Iran, OBL, the Taliban, and the Hekmatyar connection

- 97. I have reviewed previously classified Department of State cables from Pakistan and elsewhere covering the years 1996-2000 that provide extensive detail of Iran's involvement in Afghanistan. These documents were released under the Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) to the National Security Archive, a project of George Washington University in Washington, D.C.
- 98. Among other subjects, these documents detail Iran's alliance with radical Sunni warlord **Gulbuddin Hekmatyar**, and Iran's on-again, off-again ties to the Taliban.
- 99. In 1996, when U.S. pressure on the government of Sudan threatened Osama bin Laden's sanctuary in Khartoum, Iran's ally, **Hekmatyar**, invited **bin Laden** to join him in Afghanistan.
- 100. Not long after bin Laden joined Hekmatyar in Afghanistan, U.S. diplomats reported that **Hekmatyar** met with Iranian foreign minister **Ali Akbar Velayati**.
- 101. **Taliban** officials were well aware of Osama bin Laden's close ties to Iran.

  During a December 1997 meeting in Washington, D.C., Assistant Secretary of State Karl Indefurth made an official request to the Taliban to expel bin Laden from Afghanistan.

  Three Taliban government ministers replied that, if they did so, bin Laden would "go to Iran and cause more trouble." Ex. B-7 at p. 9.

- 102. When tensions between Iran and the Taliban reached their peak in February 1998, Iran ordered Hekmatyar to do battle against the Taliban as Iran's surrogate, even though Hekmatyar's friend, bin Laden, was then allied with the Taliban.
- 103. I learned additional details of Iran's cooperation with Hekmatyar from senior Pakistani officials, including the director of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, (ISI) during a trip to the region in February-March 1998, in particular, that Iran was flying arms and equipment to Hekmatyar inside Afghanistan. *See* "The Great Game in Afghanistan," *The Iran Brief*, April 6, 1998.
- 104. In August 1998, Taliban troops massacred Afghani Hazara Shiites and Iranian diplomats in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan. In response, Iran massed some 250,000 troops at its border with Afghanistan and threatened to invade.
- 105. Yet, even at the peak of this very public hostility between Iran and the Taliban regime, the IRGC was laying the groundwork for a new relationship with the Taliban and especially with al Qaeda.

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107. This double-dealing is consistent with Iranian government behavior since the beginning of the Islamic Republic regime in 1979.

#### 2000: Iran courts the Taliban; meets Zawahiri in Afghanistan

- 108. I have reviewed recently released transcripts of detainee hearings at the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay that provide additional examples of improving Iran-Taliban relations from 1999-2001.
- 109. Former Taliban Interior Minister **Khirrullah Said Wali Khairkhwa** was the commander of Taliban forces that initially took the city of Mazar-e Sharif in Afghanistan in 1996. The massacre of Afghani Hazara Shiites and Iranian diplomats in Mazar-e Sharif that followed in 1998 should have made Khairkhwa a hated figure in Iran's eyes. Khairkhwa told a U.S. military tribunal in Guantanamo that, despite that background, the Taliban appointed him Governor of Herat Province from 1999-2001 with the specific mission "to improve relations between Iran and the Taliban government."
- 110. "On 7 January 2000, the detainee [Khairkhwa] and three other Taliban officials attended a meeting with Iranian and *Hizbi Islami-Gulbuddin Hekmatyar* faction officials. Present at the meeting were Afghan *Hizbi Islami-Gulbuddin* leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, and Ayman al Zawahiri. Topics of discussion included United States

intervention in the region, restoration of peace in Afghanistan, and strengthening the ties with Iran government."<sup>28</sup>

- 111. After 9/11, Khairkhwa continued to meet with Iranian government officials. "In November 2001, the detainee met with an Iranian diplomatic delegation. The Iranian government was prepared to offer anti-aircraft weapons to the Taliban for use against the United States and coalition forces operating in Afghanistan," according to the same transcript cited above. Ex. B-8.
- 112. The Islamic Republic of Iran, the Taliban, and al Qaeda have gone to great lengths to purvey a public myth that they are ferocious enemies because of their religious differences. According to the head of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, who I interviewed in 1998 in Islamabad, the Iranian government periodically attacked Sunni Muslim leaders and institutions in Pakistan, to enflame sectarian hatred. Similarly, al Qaeda in Iraq became notorious after the U.S. invasion of Iraq for its repeated attacks on Shiite religious shrines and personalities.<sup>29</sup>
- 113. However, everything I have learned in my investigations over the past twenty years indicates that the public myth of irreconcilable Sunni-Shiite religious differences is false when it comes to terrorist operations, and that both the Taliban and al Qaeda have cooperated extensively with Iran since the early 1990s, especially against the United States and against Jewish or Israeli targets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> "Unclassified Summary of Evidence for Administrative Review Board in the Case of Khairkhwa, Khirullah Said Wali," October 7, 2005, p. 533. (These pages appear to have been misnumbered in the transcript, repeating the 000530 sequence.)

This is one reason why Iran kept its terrorist training camps segregated along sectarian, and even nationality, lines, as described previously at  $\P$  62-66, *supra*.

114. In recent written testimony before the Senate Armed Services committee on March 16, 2010, U.S. CENTCOM commander General David Petraeus acknowledged that Iran has been aiding the Taliban in Afghanistan and that such aid continues to the present day. "[Al Qaeda] continues to use Iran as a key facilitation hub, where facilitators connect al Qaeda's senior leadership to regional affiliates," he said. "And although Iranian authorities do periodically disrupt this network by detaining select al Qaeda facilitators and operational planners, Tehran's policy in this regard is often unpredictable."

### 2000-2001: Iran becomes the al Qaeda travel facilitator

- 115. Iran is known to have provided travel documents and to facilitate travel into and out of Afghanistan for al Qaeda operatives seeking to disguise their travels from Western intelligence agencies.
- 116. I heard anecdotal information from U.S. intelligence officers, gathered during their trips to Afghan-Pakistan border region from 1998-2000, indicating that the United States was then aware that al Qaeda was trying to avoid Pakistan as much as possible as an entry and exit point to Afghanistan because they believed the United States had thousands" of CIA and FBI officers on the ground hunting for Osama bin Laden and his colleagues as part of the East African U.S. Embassies bombing investigation. <sup>30</sup>
- 117. The head of Pakistan's ISI told me in an interview in March 1998 that the ISI itself was worried that such a U.S. operation was underway, because it might prompt bin Laden to attack American targets in Pakistan, and he had raised the issue with senior U.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Such a belief by al Qaeda was, of course, false. There was no such U.S. task force on the ground in Pakistan at that time.

officials. The U.S. "asked us to convey to bin Laden via the Taliban that they had no plans to come after him," the ISI director told me.

- 118. A number of lower level Guantanamo Bay detainees describe facilities provided to them as al Qaeda members by Iran. Several said that Iran facilitated their travel between Afghanistan and Europe, so they could bypass Pakistan, where they believed the United States could detect them. *See* Ex. B-9. Among them:
  - a. Detainee Al Wady, Hamoud Abdullah Hamoud Hassan "traveled to Afghanistan from Yemen via Iran and Syria in early 2001. [Detainee hearings, p. 521.]
  - b. Detainee Al Suadi Abdul Aziz Abdullah Ali "traveled from Damascus, Syria, to Tehran Iran, to Mashaad [sic], Iran, to Tibatt, Iran and then to Kandahar, Afghanistan" when he joined al Qaeda near the end of 2000. [Detainee hearings, p. 530.]
  - c. Detainee **Muhammed**, **Abdul Majid**, who served 3 to 4 years in the Iranian army before going to Afghanistan, obtained a letter from *Hezbi Islami* leader Gulbuddin Hekmatiar "allowing the detainee to cross the border from Iran to Afghanistan" as a drug courier. [Detainee hearings, p. 500.]
  - d. Detainee Peerzai Qari Hasan Ulla, a deputy to the Taliban intelligence chief, "was likely recruited by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corp or the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security, trained and returned to Afghanistan as a collector and for operational use." [Detainee hearings, p. 509.] The military prosecutors working on the detainee hearings had

access to U.S. intelligence files on the detainees, which included information in addition to what had been obtained through direct interrogation. That information prompted the prosecutors in Peerzai's case to make the following critical observation: "Contacts with al Qaeda were said to have been established through the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS). All Iranian intelligence chiefs had contact with al Qaeda as of the mid-1990s." [Detainee hearings, p. 509.]

Another case in point is that of **Tarek Charaabi**, a Tunisian who was arrested in Italy as part of a roundup of al Qaeda members in April 2001. Charaabi was, reportedly, worried when an al Qaeda travel "facilitator" told him to use the "rat line" through Iran. The facilitator reassured him that al Qaeda had "total collaboration with the Iranians" and had its own organization in Iran "that takes care of helping the *mujahedin* brothers cross the border." The facilitator said that al Qaeda had switched from using Pakistan as a transit point because "in these past years there's [sic] too many secret services." Charaabi was instructed to go to the Iranian embassy in London to pick up a visa "because it's very smooth and then everything's well organized all the way to the training camps." Their March 10, 2001, conversation was wire-tapped by Italian police and presented in a Milan courtroom during the February 2002 trial of Charaabi and three other Tunisians, who were then convicted of having provided logistical support to al Qaeda in Europe.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Judge Giovanna Verga sentenced them to up to five years in prison. See Timmerman, Countdown to Crisis, p. 271; Sebastian Rotella, "Terrorism Suspects Traced to Iran," Los Angeles Times, August 1, 2004; and "Al Qaeda suspect jailed in Italy," CNN, February 22, 2002.

#### The 9/11 Commission documents

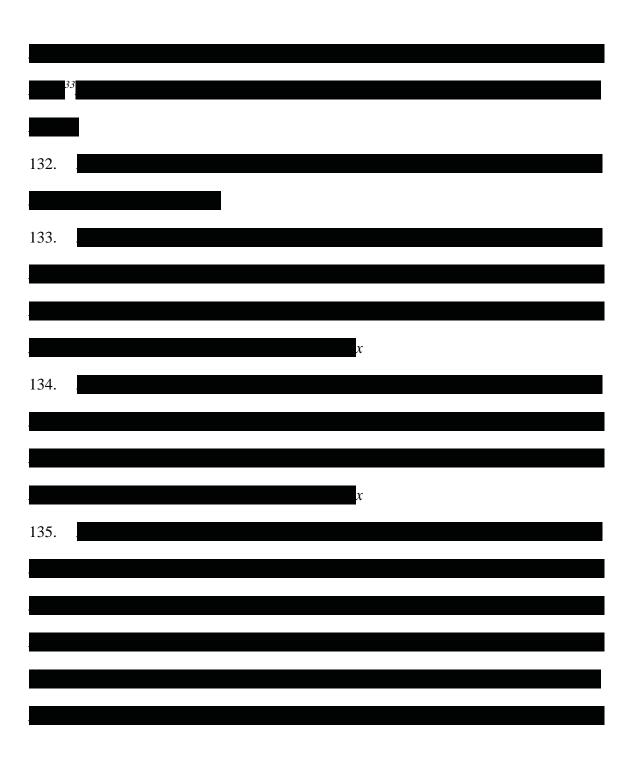
- 120. The 9/11 Commission discovered evidence of Iran's material support for the al Qaeda 9/11 hijackers just one week before the Commission sent its final report to the printer in July 2004. The evidence came in the form of 75 highly classified U.S. intelligence documents, which were reviewed by Commission staff on a Sunday morning in a secure facility at the National Security Agency.
- 121. These documents detailed assistance the Iranian government and its Lebanese proxy, *Hizballah*, provided to al Qaeda before the September 11, 2001 attacks.
- 122. I learned of this discovery in September 2004 from a member of the 9/11 Commission, who introduced me to Commission staff members who had taken part in the last minute document review.<sup>32</sup> Ex. B-10.
- 123. The NSA documents comprised a complete documented record of operational ties between Iran and al Qaeda for the critical months just prior to September 11.
- 124. A member of the 9/11 Commision staff team that conducted the review told me the documents showed that Iran had facilitated the travel of al Qaeda operatives and ordered Iranian border inspectors not to put telltale stamps in the operatives' passports, thus keeping their travel documents clean. This staff member also told me the documents showed that the Iranians were fully aware that they were helping operatives who were part of an organization preparing attacks against the United States.
- 125. The NSA documents are summarized on pages 240-241 of the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT, which states, "There is strong evidence that Iran facilitated the transit of al

See <u>Countdown to Crisis</u>, pp. 268-71. *New York Times* reporter Philip Shenon also reported this episode in his 2008 book, <u>The Commission</u>, at pp. 370-73.

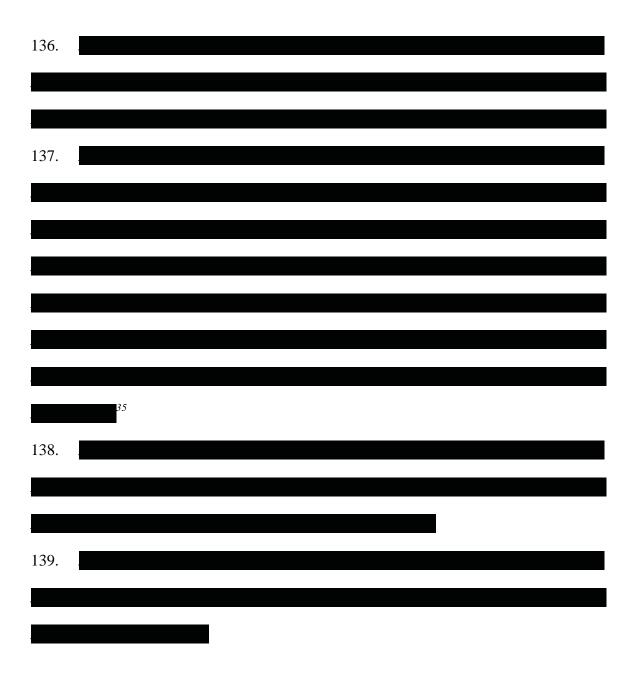
Qaeda members into and out of Afghanistan before 9/11 and that some of these were future 9/11 hijackers."

- 126. The 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT also states that a "senior *Hezbollah* operative" and his associate accompanied future hijackers on their travels to Iran. Ex. B-11.
- 127. I learned from 9/11 Commission staff that the "senior *Hezbollah* operative" was clearly identified in the NSA documents as **Imad Fayez Mughniyah**, although the Commission ultimately decided against naming Mughniyah in the printed version of the report.
- 128. On behalf of *Havlish*, I have petitioned senior White House officials and members of the House Permanent Select Intelligence Committee to use their influence to get these documents or relevant portions thereof declassified, without success.
- 129. In addition, at my suggestion, since 2007, *Havlish* attorneys have submitted several requests to the Director, CIA, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director, DIA, to get supporting documents cited in the footnotes of these pages of the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT released under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Those requests have been denied.

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February 2001: 9/11 Coordinator Ramzi Binalshibh travels to Iran

- 148. Identified by the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT as the "coordinator" of the 9/11 plot, Ramzi Binalshibh met repeatedly with lead hijacker Mohammad Atta in various cities in Europe in late 2000 and early 2001, then traveled to Afghanistan to deliver a progress report from the operations team to Osama bin Laden and his deputy, Ayman al Zawahiri. En route, Binalshibh stopped over in Iran.
- 149. The 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT does not mention Binalshibh's trips to Iran, although it references intelligence reports on Binalshibh's activities in Germany that the German BKA provided to the Commission.
- 150. *Havlish* attorneys Richard Hailey, J.D. Lee, and Timothy B. Fleming and I met with the German federal prosecutors in September 2004. Chief prosecutor Walter Hemberger provided to the *Havlish* attorneys one of those intelligence reports showing that Binalshibh traveled to Iran on his own passport after getting a visa from the Iranian embassy in Berlin.
- 151. The German federal prosecutors also provided *Havlish* attorneys with a certified copy of a memo the BKA sent to the FBI in November 2001, documenting Binalshibh's travel to Iran in January-February 2001. In addition, Walter Hemberger gave us copies of several news articles I had written on the subject of Iran's cooperation with al Qaeda. Hemberger stated that he provided these documents to the 9/11 Commission in June 2004.<sup>36</sup>
- 152. The BKA memo states that **Binalshibh** obtained a visa from the Iranian embassy in Berlin, traveled via Amsterdam on January 27-28, 2001, and then flew to Iran on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> The 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT, footnote 81 to Chapter 5, p. 495, states that the German federal prosecutor sent a letter to 9/11 Commission staff on June 24, 2004, providing documents and answering questions from the Commission.

January 31, 2001. While the BKA states it had no information how long Binalshibh stayed in Iran, the Germans next picked up his trace on February 28, 2001, when Binalshibh returned to Hamburg to empty out the apartment used by the 9/11 pilots. Ex B-13.<sup>37</sup> Binalshibh was eventually arrested in Pakistan in September 2002.

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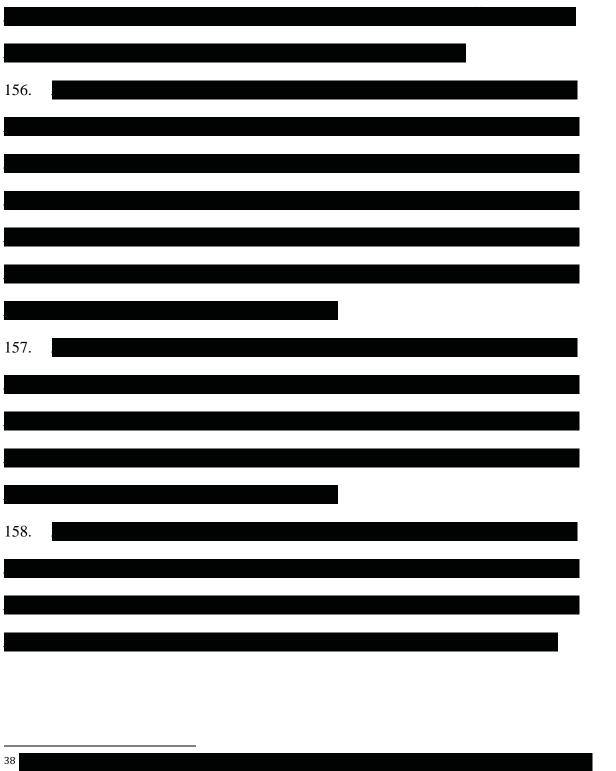
Binalshibh may also have traveled *through* Iran *to* Afghanistan, as the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT says that at least eight of the hijackers did, to avoid having Afghanistan entry and exit stamps in his passport, and as well, to avoid suspected U.S. surveillance in Pakistan.

154. By issuing him visas for Iran, the Iranian government clearly facilitated Binalshibh's travel. It is my expert opinion that Binalshibh did not travel to Iran as a tourist, that the Iranian government knew Binalshibh played a key role in the terrorist plot then being hatched, and that, because of this, provided material assistance to him.

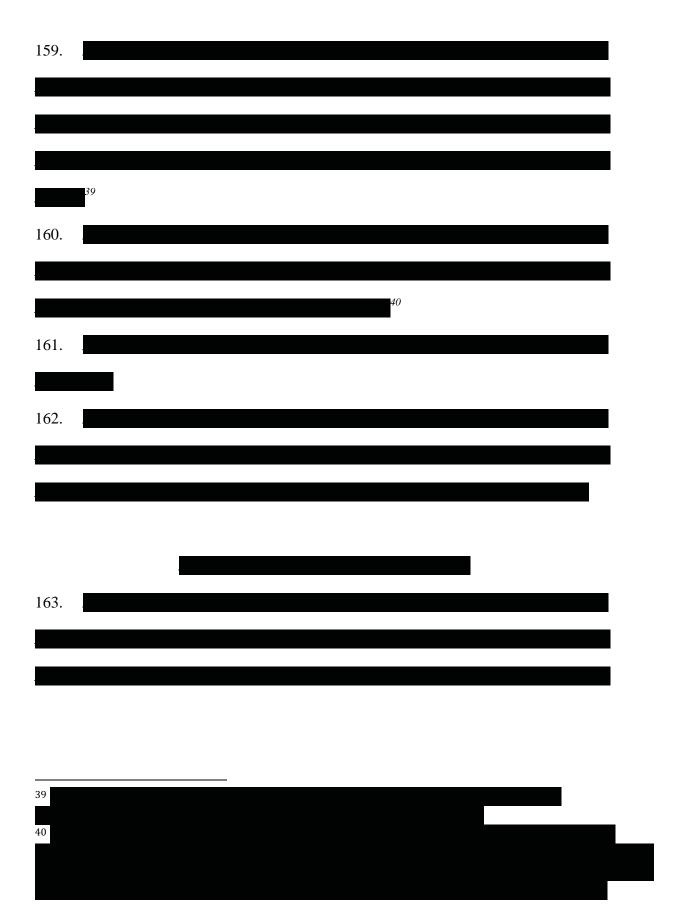
# Iran purchases a Boeing flight simulator

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<sup>37</sup> BKA Cable number 13423, dated November 23, 2001. Ref: No 177/01. File 14-31.



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Second Affidavit of Kenneth R. Timmerman re: Expert Testimony, page 43

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168. One of my trusted sources on the 9/11 Commission staff told me that Iran was "definitely aware that something big was going down" and collaborated by providing travel documents, travel assistance, washed documents, training, and other material assistance to the conspiracy.

- 169. On September 11, 2001, the day of the attack, I spoke to Ahmad Rezai, the son of former IRGC commander, Major General **Mohsen Rezai**. The younger Rezai was then living in Los Angeles and had been trying to convince his parents to send his younger sister to the United States to attend a university, something they had always resisted. After watching the news of the attacks, the father said he was considering sending *all* the family out of Iran. He warned his son to take extra security precautions because it was clear to him that Iran would get blamed for the attacks. The implication of his father's comment on sending his family outside of Iran was crystal clear to his son: his father was afraid the United States would bomb Iran in retaliation for Iran's involvement in the plot. *See* Countdown to Crisis, pp. 250-51.
- 170. Like the son, I infer that the father had knowledge that Iran was involved, and had advance knowledge of, the 9/11 attack. While this is merely anecdotal evidence, it comes from a source connected to the upper echelons of the Iranian regime (the elder Rezai was a presidential candidate in 2005 and again in 2009).

## Iran evacuates al Qaeda operatives from Afghanistan after 9/11

- 171. In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, Iranian security forces used the "rat-line" that they had established earlier (to help al Qaeda operatives reach Europe) to evacuate al Qaeda fighters and their families from Afghanistan before the U.S.-led coalition attack on the Taliban regime reached its peak. Among the high-level al Qaeda officials who came through the "rat-line" were **Saad Bin Laden, Saef al Adel**, and **Abu Mussab Zarqawi**.
- 172. In the weeks after the 9/11 attacks, hundreds of lower level al Qaeda fighters streamed across the border into Iran, along with their families, in convoys of four-wheel drive vehicles. Most were transferred to safe houses to the north of Tehran. All were

under the protection of the Iranian regime. The evacuation was handled under the orders of IRGC intelligence chief **Morteza Rezai** (not to be confused with Mohsen Rezai, discussed above).

- I learned about the Iranian's evacuation of al Qaeda from Afghanistan from multiple sources, including "Colonel B" (see ¶¶ 88-99 of my First Affidavit re: the Havlish Investigation), whose IRGC colleagues were personally involved in the evacuation; "Bahram" (id., ¶¶ 100-10,), whose OPFGI organization had identified safe houses outside of Tehran where nearly 800 al Qaeda fighters and their families were being housed; and U.S. Government officials, who told me they were aware that Iran was using "helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft" in addition to the convoys of four-wheel drive vehicles to evacuate al Qaeda operatives to the Iranian city of Mashhad and beyond in October 2001.
- 174. After denying for eighteen months that any al Qaeda operatives were present in Iran, on February 16, 2003, Iran's Foreign Minister **Kamal Kharrazi** told reporters that the authorities had "arrested" or "deported" more than 500 al Qaeda members.
- 175. However, the sources mentioned in ¶ 168, *supra*, told me at the time that none of the high-level al Qaeda operatives or their families was ever arrested by the regime.

  Instead, they were transferred from safe houses that had been "blown" to *Boostaneh Bostan*, a more secure guesthouse run by IRGC intelligence and known to U.S.

  intelligence analysts to whom I spoke as the site of a former army depot near Karaj, north of Tehran.
- 176. In addition, I have never seen reports of any al Qaeda members "deported" from Iran to any other country. Even if such an arrangement had been made with, for example,

Saudi Arabia, at some point it would have leaked out. I am aware of no such information, and, in my profession, I constantly monitor reports from multiple information streams looking for such developments.

177. According to press reports and my own sources, the United States intercepted communications from Saif al Adel, then in Mashhad, to al Qaeda assassination teams in Saudi Arabia just before their May 12, 2003, assault on three housing compounds in Riyadh. More than 92 people died during the running gun battles that ensued. The May 12 attacks shocked the Saudi regime and prompted the first serious crackdown on al Qaeda and its supporters in the Kingdom. The attacks also prompted an immediate cutoff of then ongoing high-level negotiations between the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Zalmay Khalilzad, and senior Iranian government officials.

178. Following these events, the United States Government publicly accused the Iranian government of harboring al Qaeda operatives in Iran, prompting Iranian intelligence minister Ali Yunesi to claim, in August 2003, that his services were detaining "large numbers" of al Qaeda terrorists, purportedly under house arrest.<sup>41</sup>

179. Based on the above facts, it is my <u>expert opinion</u> that **senior al Qaeda operatives**, **including their top military planners**, **sought** – **and were provided** – **refuge in Iran after the 9/11 attacks and that they used Iran as a base for additional terrorist attacks after 9/11**, with the knowledge, approval, and assistance of the highest levels of the Iranian government.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> CNN 8/1/2003. President George W. Bush also accused Iran of "harboring al Qaeda leadership" when the 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT was released in July 2004. *See* Joseph Curl, "Bush Hits Iran for Aid to al Qaeda," *Washington Times*, July 20, 2004.

#### French counter-terrorism judge finds Iran tie to al Qaeda

- 180. In October 2004, French counter-terrorism judge Jean-Louis Bruguière wrapped up his investigation into the al Qaeda plot to bomb the Strasbourg Cathedral over the December 2000 Christmas holidays. The alleged leader of the plot, a Moroccan named Mohammad Ben Zakhriah, a/k/a Meliani, had trained in Afghanistan with top al Qaeda operatives. Among the documents Bruguière sent to prosecutors were copies of Zakhriah's passport and his travel records, showing that he traveled back and forth between Afghanistan and Europe through Iran. Judge Bruguière briefed me on his findings once he had closed his investigation.
- 181. Judge Bruguière found that Iran provided safe haven, travel facilities, financial support, intelligence, and limited operational assistance to the al Qaeda network run by Abu Musab Zarqawi, a Jordanian of Palestinian ancestry who went on to become the leader of "al Qaeda in Iraq" after the 2003 Gulf War.
- 182. Iran's close ties to Zarqawi were well known to the French intelligence services before the 2003 Gulf War. In the fall of 2002, the French delivered to the United States classified cables and a detailed organization chart showing **Zarqawi's Iran connection** and the location of his **Iranian-backed** terror cells inside Iraqi territory. This was well before U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell made his presentation to the United Nations Security Council, where he claimed that Zarqawi was backed by **Iraqi** dictator Saddam Hussein, not Iran. The misrepresentation of the source of support for Zarqawi's *Ansar Al*

*Islam* organization by Secretary Powell added to the well-documented frictions between Paris and Washington at the time.<sup>42</sup>

- 183. Judge Bruguière assisted Spanish authorities investigating the al Qaeda cell that carried out the March 11, 2004, commuter train bombings in Madrid, Spain, as many of the suspects were Moroccans who had lived or worked in France. Judge Bruguière found that key suspects *always* transited through Iran from Afghanistan on their way to Europe because they knew that the route was safe and the Iranian government had approved their travels.
- 184. Spanish communications intercepts, cited by the *Los Angeles Times*, showed that a primary suspect in the Madrid attacks, Mustafa Setmariam Nasar, frequently operated from a base in Iran after the 9/11 attacks, and traveled to Europe from Iran to set the Madrid plot in motion.<sup>43</sup>
- 185. Judge Bruguière expressed to me his conclusion that the Iranians repeatedly provided safe haven, travel facilities, financial support, intelligence, and some operational assistance to al Qaeda operatives, especially in the post 9/11 period, as part of a larger strategy of increasing the pressure on the United States and Israel. As he explained to me, "Al Qaeda is not a threat to Iran because the Iranians see no opposition between Sunnis and Shiites." *See* Countdown to Crisis, p. 279.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Judge Bruguière makes a point of this in the sworn statement he provided to *Havlish* attorneys for this case.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> See Sebastian Rotella, "Terrorism Suspects Traced to Iran," Los Angeles Times, August 1, 2004; and Sharon Chadha, "What is al Qaeda Management Doing in Iran?" RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY, December 4, 2004.

#### Reports that Osama bin Laden is in Iran

186. I have received several overlapping reports since 2005 that Osama bin Laden himself has been in Iran at various times since the 9/11 attacks. These reports came from the three distinct, unconnected sources.

a.		

b. In March 2008, Alan Parrot, the CEO of a U.S-based non-profit naturalist organization, the *Union for the Conservation of Raptors*, traveled to Tajikstan and Afghanistan with a film crew to interview a smuggler who claimed he met regularly with Osama bin Laden during falcon hunting season in the vast rolling steppes of northeastern Iran.

I reviewed the entire fifty-five minute interview with the smuggler, who was not identified by name. In addition, Mr. Parrot provided me with taped conversations, interview notes, and other materials, to support his view that Osama bin Laden regularly hunted falcons in Iran, since at least November 2004, with the approval, assistance and cover of the Iranian government, which closed the entire provincial region where bin Laden

was hunting to other foreigners, including to other wealthy Arabs.<sup>44</sup> Mr. Parrot has incorporated excerpts from the interview with the smuggler mentioned above in a documentary film, "Feathered Cocaine," which premiered on April 27, 2010 at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

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187. While I	have been unable to corroborate independently any of these "sightings" of Osama
bin Laden in Ira	an, they fit a longstanding pattern of Iranian cooperation with the al Qaeda

188. Leaders of the U.S. intelligence community have stated repeatedly that they believe
Osama bin Laden has been hiding out in the mountains along the Afghan-Pakistan border. While
this is a very wild area, it is also arguably the most watched piece

leadership that began in 1991-1992 in the Sudan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> See Kenneth R. Timmerman, "Did Bin Laden Find Safe Haven in Iraq?" Newsmax.com, April 3, 2009.

of real estate on Earth. In addition to more than 100,000 Pakistan army troops patrolling the region, as well as numerous Pakistani intelligence officers and their agents, the United States conducts extensive surveillance of the region by satellite and by Predator drone and through other means.

189. In my expert opinion, all the sources' information and the evidence referenced in this affidavit substantially increase the possibility that Osama bin Laden currently is being sheltered by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a part of Iran far from U.S. or foreign surveillance. Furthermore, it is my expert opinion that Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda certainly have been sheltered, aided, and given various forms of material assistance by the Iranian government at various times before and since the 9/11 attacks.

## Usage of all Iranian state instrumentalities in support of terrorism

- 191. **The Bakhtiar murder.** To carry out the murder of former Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar, who was gruesomely murdered by Iranian regime agents at his home

outside of Paris on August 6, 1991, the Iranian government used multiple government ministries and organizations to provide logistics and operational support to the assassins.

- 192. According to the 177-page prosecutor's report, to which I had access while reporting for TIME magazine on the case in 1994, the assassination was orchestrated by MOIS, then headed by **Ali Fallahian**.
- 193. The French authorities found visa application forms for the killers that were endorsed by a French electronics company called Syfax, whose owners told the French they had sponsored the visas at the request of Massoud Hendi, the former Paris bureau chief for IRIB, Iranian state television.
- 194. At the time, IRIB was headed by Mohammed Hashemi, brother of Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Hendi told prosecutors he had sought the visas at the request of Hossein Sheikhattar, a senior aide to the minister of telecommunications.
- 195. Helping the assassination team escape through Switzerland was Zeinolabedine Sarhadi, a nephew of Hashemi-Rafsanjani.
- 196. Sarhadi's mission order was signed by foreign minister Ali Akbar Velayati.
- 197. Judge Jean-Louis Bruguière, the investigative magistrate for the case, told me at the time, "The whole Iranian state apparatus is at the service of these operations."<sup>45</sup>
- 198. **Reza Kahlili.** Former IRGC officer and CIA double-agent Reza Kahlili describes, in his recent memoir, <u>A Time To Betray</u>, *supra*, several examples of the usage of state instrumentalities to support terrorism that he personally witnessed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> "The Tehran Connection," TIME, March 21, 1994, by Thomas Sancton, with reporting by Nomi Morris/Berlin, Elaine Shannon/Washington, and Kenneth R. Timmerman / Geneva, Istanbul, Paris, and Vienna.

- 199. At one point, he told his CIA handler that Iran's ruling clerics "fund terrorist groups through charitable organizations." *See* p. 130.
- 200. Kahlili also described how the IRGC used stretch limousines in Dubai "displaying Iranian flags and consulate license plates" to transfer of arms and money to terrorist groups. *See* p. 174.
- 201. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs became the center for intelligence and terror, with intelligence officers posted as ambassadors and consuls around the world," Kahlili told me in a recent interview. The regime also used Iran Air, and the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines in support of terrorist operations, he said. "Basically, every entity of the Iranian government is connected to terrorism, working under the umbrella of the *Qods* Force of the Revolutionary Guards." Kenneth R. Timmerman, "Ex-Agent Chronicles Being CIA's Eyes and Ears in Iran," Newsmax.com, March 30, 2010.
- 202. **Jahangir Amouzegar**. Over the past few years, the IRGC has been expanding its involvement in, indeed, its ownership stake in the Iranian economy. According to well-respected Iranian economist Jahangir Amuzegar, a former Iranian Minister of Finance and the Iranian representative to the Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), "the government and state-affiliated entities continue to own, manage or control some seventy percent of the economy, with the *Pasdaran* (Revolutionary Guards) making increasing inroads into such strategic areas as oil and gas, infrastructure, telecommunications, missile development, nuclear energy and even some unsavory operations." Javangir Amuzegar, "Bad structure + bad management = lousy economy," *International Iran Times*, April 2, 2010, p. 5.

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- 208. U.S. security officials in northern Iraq told me, while I was on a reporting trip to the region in April 2008, that Iran also provided truckloads of commercial goods, such as electric space heaters, for free to its agents inside Iraq, which they could sell on local markets to fund their intelligence gathering or terrorist networks.
- 209. The Iranian government derives the funds for many of these operations from the income of the National Iranian Oil Company and the state-owned gas companies.



# January 2009 Statement from the U.S. Treasury

213. On January 16, 2009, the U.S. Department of the Treasury designated **Saad bin Laden** and three other top al Qaeda officials as international terrorists under Executive Order 13224. The three-page background paper released in support of the designation provides important new details of the relationship between the four men and the Islamic

Republic of Iran. This information corroborates significant elements of the testimony I have provided in this affidavit. Ex. B-15.

- 214. In particular, the January 16, 2009 Treasury report states: In "late 2001, **Sa'ad bin Laden** facilitated the travel of Usama bin Laden's family members from Afghanistan to Iran.

  Sa'ad made key decisions for al Qaida and was part of a small group of al Qaida members that was involved in managing the terrorist organization from Iran."
- 215. The January 16, 2009 Treasury report further states: **Mustafa Hamid**, a senior al Qaeda member, "served as a primary interlocutor between al Qaida and the Government of Iran.... While living in Iran, Hamid was harbored by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), which served as Hamid's point of contact for communications between al Qaida and Iran." 216. The January 16, 2009 Treasury report further states: "In the mid-1990s, Mustafa Hamid reportedly negotiated a secret relationship between Osama bin Laden and Iran, allowing many al Qaeda members safe transit through Iran to Afghanistan.... In the late 1990s, Mustafa Hamid passed communications between Osama bin Laden and the Government of Iran. When tensions were high between Iran and Afghanistan, Mustafa Hamid traveled multiple times from Kandahar to Tehran as an intermediary for the Taliban. In late 2001, Mustafa Hamid was in Tehran delivering messages from the Taliban to the Government of Iran. Hamid also negotiated on behalf of al Qaida in an attempt to relocate al Qaida families to Iran" after the 9/11 attacks.
- 217. The January 16, 2009 Treasury report further states: **Muhammad Rab'a** al **Sayid** al **Bahtiyti,** an Egyptian-born al Qaeda operative, "has served as a trusted aid to

his father-in-law, Ayman al Zawahiri.... After September 11, 2001, Ayman al Zawahiri instructed Bahtiyti to take al Zawahiri's family to Iran. Bahtiyti reportedly traveled to Iran with al Zawahiri's daughters, where he was subsequently responsible for them. In January 2003, while working from Iran, Bahtiyti arranged housing on behalf of al Qaeda' operatives who came to Iran seeking refugee from U.S. trackers.

218. The January 16, 2009 Treasury report further states: Ali Saleh Husain, a/k/a Abu
Dahhak, was a Yemeni al Qaeda operative who "had close relations" with bin Laden himself. In
April 2002, while living in Iran, he was given "responsibility for operation meetings for attacks
against Israel," and was a chief al Qaeda contact in Iran for acquiring fresh travel documents for
al Qaeda operatives. "In 2001 after the fall of the Taliban, Husain facilitated the movement of al
Qaida associated fighters, including an al Qaida military commander, from Afghanistan to Iran.
After leaving Afghanistan, Husain was responsible for smuggling al Qaida members and
associates via networks in Zahedan, Iran."

219. The four al Qaeda members referenced in the Treasury report, one of which was the eldest son of Osama bin Laden, were among a larger group of al Qaeda operatives allegedly "detained" by the Iranian regime in mid-2003, after Saudi Arabia complained that Iran had allowed al Qaeda to plot the May 2003 terrorist attacks in Riyadh from Iranian soil.<sup>47</sup>

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> During those attacks, al Qaeda operatives shot their way into three housing compounds and set off multiple car bombs, killing 91 people. The Saudis called the May 2003 attacks "our 9/11" and launched a crackdown on homegrown Islamic extremists in the weeks that followed.

This Affidavit is comprised of 219 separately numbered paragraphs, and has Exhibits B-1 through B-15.

I, KENNETH R. TIMMERMAN, being duly sworn, do hereby swear and affirm under penalty of perjury that the contents of this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Kenneth R. Timmerman

Subscribed and sworn before me this b day of May, 2010, in Washington D.C.

Notary Public

Denise G. Willsey
NOTARY PUBLIC
Montgomery County, Maryland
My Commission Expires 9/12/2013





## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

D. PETERSON, et al, . Docket No. CA 01-2094

> Washington, D. C. March 17, 2003 Plaintiffs,

10:00 a.m.

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND SECURITY,

Defendants

J. BOULOS, et al, Docket No. CA 01-2684

Plaintíffs,

VS.

VS,

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, THE IRANIAN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND SECURITY,

Defendants

TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL BEFORE THE HONORABLE ROYCE C. LAMBERTH UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiffs: THOMAS FORTUNE FAY, ESQUIRE

DAN GASKILL, ESQUIRE

601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

#900 - South Building Washington, D.C. 20004

202 589 1300

STEVEN R. PERLES, ESQUIRE 1615 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009

202 745 1300

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             THE COURT: All right.
             MR. FAY: Your Honor, while we're waiting I spied
    another distinguished member of our bar who has been working
 4
    with us on this case, Mr. Feeney. Robert Feeney.
 45
             MR. FEENEY: Good morning, Your Honor.
 6
             THE COURT: Mr. Feeney.
 7
             MR. FAY: I guess we need a little work on the lights.
             There.
8
 9
             (Videotape deposition of Joseph Salam played)
10
             (Mr. Fay requested on the videotape deposition that
    Mr. Salam be qualified as an expert)
12
12
             THE COURT: The witness is well qualified, and the
13
    request is granted.
14
             (Videotape deposition of Joseph Salam continued,
15
    followed by videotape deposition of Mahmoud)
1.6
             MR. FAY: Your Honor, may I approach the bench?
17
             (Off the record)
1.8
             THE COURT: The Court will recess at this time. We
19
    will resume at two o'clock with the testimony of Admiral Lyons.
20
             (Lunch recess, 12:10 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.)
21
                             AFTERNOON SESSION 2:10 P.M.
22
             MR. FAY: Good afternoon, Your Honor. At this time we
    would call James Lyons as a witness.
23
    JAMES LYONS, WITNESS FOR THE PLAINTIFFS, SWORN)
24
                          DIRECT EXAMINATION
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- I | July of 1983 to September, 1985, did you have occasion to
- 2 receive intelligence information with respect to areas where
- 3 | American military forces were involved?
- 4 | A | 1 did. Numerous ones.
- 5 Q Was it in the normal course of your work as Deputy Chief of
- 6 | Naval Operations?
- / | A Correct.
- d Q Admiral, in your position as Deputy Chief of Naval
- 9 Operations, did you have occasion to become aware of an
- 10 | intercept of a message to the Iranian Ambassador in Damascus
- 11 | from the Iranian Government in Tehran in the fall, late
- 12 | September of 1983?
- 13 A You know, we -- that message came -- I got to see that
- 14 | message on the 25th of October, two days after the event of the
- 15 Marine Barracks blowup. And that message was formulated in the
- 16 | latter part of September, approximately four weeks before the
- 17 | Marine Barracks blowup.
- 18 | Q When you say formulated, would that be the same as
- 19 intercepted in some way?
- 20 A Well, you can say that we know with certainty that the
- 21 Iranian Ambassador called in the leader of the terrorist group,
- 22 Islamic Amal, (spelled phonetically) Hussein Moussaoui, and
- 23 | gave him instructions to carry out attacks on the forces in
- 24 | Lebanon and to take a spectacular action against the United
- 25 | States Marines.

- 1 Q Were you ever able to determine why this intercept of late 2 September, 1983 did not reach you until two days after the
- 3 accack on the Marine Barracks at Beirut?
- 4 A I've asked that question a thousand times. I don't know.
- 5 I first saw it when the Director of Naval Intelligence walked
- 5 | into my office and said this is something you'd better take a
- 7 look at.
- 8 Q Have you brought a copy of that record with you today?
- 9 A Well, I'm not authorized to do that, but I have here an
- 10 envelope which I will hand the Court which will provide
- 11 sufficient information for the Court to request that document
- 12 through appropriate channels.
- 13 Q Is that still classified information?
- 14 A As far as I know.
- 15 Q And that is in an envelope marked Plaintiffs' Exhibit
- 16 | Number Five?
- 17 THE COURT: Seven.
- 18 MR. FAY: Seven, I'm sorry. Seven. Your Honor, we
- 19 would ask that this exhibit be admitted into evidence but kept
- 20 | under seal of the Court and not published.
- 21 BY MR. FAY:
- 22 Q Admiral, without disclosure of intercept methods with
- 23 appropriate consideration of national security factors, can you
- 24 describe essentially the information, the type of information
- 25 | you received?

- I A Well, as I said, we know with certainty that the Tranzan
- 2 Ambassador directed Hussein Moussaour, the terrorist leader of
- 5 | the Islamic Amal, to conduct attacks against the military
- 4 forces in Lebanon and to take a spectacular action against the
- 5 U.S. Marines. Beyond that, I can't go.
- 6 Q Admiral, over your years as a naval officer, was part of
- 7 | your profession the svaluation of intelligence information?
- 8 A Well, I would say if there was ever a 24-karat gold
- 9 | document, this was it. This is not something from the third
- 10 cousin of the fourth wife of Muhammad the taxicab driver.
- Il Q You don't have any doubt, I take it, as to the authenticity.
- 12 of that message?
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q And you don't have any doubt that it was sent by somebody
- 15 | in a position in Tehran to give such an order to the
- 16 | Ambassador?
- 17 A Correct.
- 18 Q Could you express your opinion, you've already said
- 19 24-Karat, but -- Your Bonor, we would ask that the Admiral be
- 20 | qualified as an expert permitted to express an opinion with
- 21 regard to the reliability of the exhibit which we've placed in
- 22 | evidence?
- 23 THE COURT: Your request is granted.
- 24 BY MR. PAY:
- 25 | Q | Could you -- you already mentioned 24-Carat, so to some

- extent you've answered it but perhaps before I ask that 1 question, could you perhaps tell us a little bit about the type 2 of information that the military gets in intelligence and how much of it is good, how such of it is okay? 4 A Well, at that particular period of time there were thousands of messages from every source you can imagine. 8 However, not like this message, which should have set off all the bells and whistles. Q How often would a message of this type of importance, of this type of reliability come across your deak, come to your 1.0 attention as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations? 1.1 A That's the only one I've seem of that quality. 12 13 Q One last question, Admiral, are you being compensated in any way for your time wither in the traffic jam trying to get 14 here or for your testimony, more importantly. 15 16 A No, not at all. MR. FAY: Your Honor, I have no other questions of 7.7 this witness. 18 THE COURT: At the time the intercept was brought to 15 20 you by the Chief of Naval Intelligence, you evaluated it in the 21 same way you have here today that this was an intelligence --THE WITNESS: I took it immediately to the Secretary 22 of the Navy and to the Chief of Naval Operations. 20 THE COURT: No question this was the real Mc Coy in 24
  - your view.

opportunity to observe these proceedings as well. If there are others who want to rotate in and out, you may do so when we do that rotation but I think that will allow some of the people who are waiting out in the hall to try to get into the

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## 24 Octob@ase00:03-cv-09848-GBD-SN Document 274-2 Filed 05/19/11 Page 69 of 138

Source: Court Reporters Office of the Southern District of New York

See related court docket: http://cryptome.sabotage.org/qaeda102000.htm

This transcript is from an appearance by Ali Mohamed before Judge Sand on October 20, 2000. Mr. Mohamed is one of 17 defendants in the bombing of US Embassies in Kenya and Sudan. And now the only one to plead guilty.

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                        UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                          SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
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                         UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
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     5
                        ALI MOHAMED,
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                                                                                                    Defendants.
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     New York, N.Y.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     October 20, 2000
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                                                                                    HON, LEONARD B. SAND,
13
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    District Judge
14
15
                                                                                                                                                        APPEARANCES
16
                        MARY JO WHITE
17
                                                  United States Attorney for the
                                                 Southern District of New York
13
                        BY: PATRICK J. FITZGERALD,
                                                 KENNETH M. KARAS,
19
                                                 MICHAEL GARCIA,
                                                 ANDREW C. MCCARTHY,
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                                                PAUL BUTLER,
                                                Assistant United States Attorneys
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involvement with the Egyptim Islamic Jihad.

In 1992, I conducted military and basic explosives training for al Queda in Afghanistan. Among the people I trained were Harun Fadhl and Abu Jihad. I also conducted intelligence training for al gaeda. I taught my trainees how to create cell structures that could be used for operations.

In 1991, I helped transport Usama bin Laden from Aighanistan to the Sudan.

When I angaged in these activities, and the others that I am about to describe, I understood that I was working with al Qaeda, Bin Laden, Abu Rafa, Abu Ubaidah, and that al M Qaeda had a shura council, which included Abu Hajer al Iradui.

In the early 1990s, I assisted al Qaeda in creating a presence in Nairobi, Kenya, and worked with several others on this project. Abu Ubaidah was in charge of al Qaeda in Nairobi until he drowned. Khalid al Fawwaz set up'al Queda's office in Nairobi. A car business was set up to create income. Wadih el Hage created a charity organization that would help provide al Qaeda members with identity documents. I personally helped of Hage by making labels in his home in Nairobi. I personally met Abu Ubaidah and Abu Hafs at Wadih's house in Mairobi.

We used various onde tames to conceal our identities. I used the name "Jeff"; of Rate used the name "Norman"; Ihab used the name "Nawai."

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25 used the name "Nawawi."

exterior security.

#### SOUTHERN DISTRICT REPORTERS, P.C. 212-805-0300

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	Oaklmohp PLEA
1	In late 1993, I was asked by bin Laden to conduct
2	surveillance of American, British, French, and Israeli targets
3	in Nairobi. Among the targets I did surveillance for was the
4	American Embassy in Nairobi, the United States AID Building in
5	Nairobi, the United States Agricultural Office in Nairobi, the
б	French Cultural Center, and French Embassy in Nairobi. These
7	targets were selected to retaliate against the United States
8	for its involvement in Somalia. I took pictures, drew
9	diagrams, and wrote a report. Khalid al Fawwaz paid for my
10	expenses and the photo enlarging equipment. He was in Nairobi
1.1	at this time.
12	I later went to Khartoum, where my surveillance files
13	and photographs were reviewed by Usama bin Laden, Abu Hafs,
14	Abu Ubaidah, and others. Bin Laden looked at the picture of
15	the American Embassy and pointed to where a truck could go as
16	a suícide bomber.
1.7	In 1994, Bin Laden sent me to Djibouti to do
18	surveillance on several facilities, including French military
19	bases and the American Embassy.
20	In 1994, after an attempt to assassinate Bin Laden, I
21	went to the Sudan in 1994 to train Bin Laden's bodyguards,
22	security detail. I trained those conducting the security of
23	the interior of his compound, and coordinated with the
24	Sudanese intelligence agents who were responsible for the

0aklmohp

25

- PLEA 1 In 1994, while I was in Sudan, I did surveillance 2 training for al Qaeda. Thab Ali, also known as Nawawi, was one of the people I trained. Nawai was supposed to train 3 ı. others. 5 In early 1990s, Zawihiri made two visits to the United States, and he came to United States to help raise 6 funds for the Egyptian Islamic Jihad. I helped him to do 7 8 this. Q I was aware of certain contacts between al Qaeda and; 10 al Jihad organization, on one side, and Eran and Rezbollah on 1. 1 the other side. I arranged security for a meeting in the 12 Sudan between Mughaniyah, Hezbollah's chief, and Bin Laden. 13 Hezbollah provided explosives training for al Qaeda 14 and al Jihad. Iran supplied Egyptian Jihad with weapons. 15 Iran also used Herbolla to supply explosives that were disquised to look like rocks. 1.5 17 In late 1994, I was in Nairobi. Abu Hais met another man and me in the back of Wadih el Hage's house. Abu Hafs 18 told me, along with someone else, to do surveillance for the 1 G 2.0 American, British, French and Israell targets in Senegal in West Africa. 21
- At about this time, late 1994, I received a call from 22 an FBI agent who wanted to speak to me about the upcoming 23 trial of United States v. Abdel Rahman. I flew back to the 24

United States, spoke to the FBT, but didn't disclose

SOUTHERN DISTRICT REPORTERS, P.C. 212-805-0300

28

6 February 2001

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Source: Digital file from the Court Reporters Office, Southern District of New York.

This is the transcript for Day 2 of the trial.

See other transcripts: <a href="http://cryptome.org/usa-v-ubl-dt.htm">http://cryptome.org/usa-v-ubl-dt.htm</a>

The main witness today has been termed the US's Confidential Source No. 1, and has not heretofore been publicly identified.

Cryptome's two top investigators attended the trial today for an hour, observed the jury of 18 persons (6 alternates) predominately minorities, the prosecutors also predominately minorities though the lead was Cauc, the three or four defendants and their legal teams, the main witness and interpretation apparatus, the filled courtroom (an overflow space received video of the proceedings), and the most impressive trial information systems with large flat panel computer screens for each jury member, for the prosecution and defense teams and plasma displays for the audience. Heavy security inside the courtroom, the courthouse and surrounding area: bountiful US Marshals, two metal detectors and checkpoints to pass through, single bank of elevators for access to the 3rd Floor courtroom, a metal and glass security bunker within the courtroom, surveillance cameras galore.

158

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
x	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	
	C/7) 00 Cm 1022
V .	S(7) 98 Cr. 1023
USAMA BIN LADEN. et al	
obinin bin bibbin, co dit,	
Defendants.	
	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  V.  USAMA BIN LADEN, et al.,

Exhibit B-4

1 APPEARANCES

USA v. Usar	ma Bin Laden - Trial Transcript Day 2 Case 1:03-cv-09848-GBD-SN Document 274-2 Filed 05/19/11 Page 75 of 138
2	MARY JO WHITE
	United States Attorney for the
3	Southern District of New York
4	BY: PATRICK FITZGERALD
4	KENNETH KARAS PAUL BUTLER
5	Assistant United States Attorneys
3	ABBIBeaire officed beaces Accorneys
6	
	SAM A. SCHMIDT
7	JOSHUA DRATEL
	KRISTIAN K. LARSEN
8	Attorneys for defendant Wadih El Hage
9	ANTHONY L. RICCO
9	EDWARD D. WILFORD
10	CARL J. HERMAN
_ •	SANDRA A. BABCOCK
11	Attorneys for defendant Mohamed Sadeek Odeh
12	FREDRICK H. COHN
	DAVID P. BAUGH
13	Attorneys for defendant Mohamed Rashed Daoud Al-'Owhali
14	JEREMY SCHNEIDER
	DAVID STERN
15	DAVID RUHNKE
	Attorneys for defendant Khalfan Khamis Mohamed
16	
17	
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16

25 160 (In open court) 1 2 THE COURT: Thursday, do we need interpreters? Are the defendants going to be present on Thursday? 3 4 MR. HERMAN: Mr. Odeh waives his presence, Judge. 5 MR. SCHMIDT: Mr. El Hage waives his presence as well. 6 7 MR. STERN: Mr. Mohamed is going to waive his 8 presence. 9 THE COURT: The sketch artists, I take it, have been 10 instructed not to sketch any juror and not to sketch the next 11 witness. 12 MR. COHN: Mr. Al-'Owhali waives his presence, your 13 Honor. 14 THE COURT: Who have we not heard from?

MR. COHN:

You've heard from everybody.

THE COURT: We've heard from everybody. All right,

USA v. Usama Bin Laden - Trial Transcript Day 2 Case 1:03-cv-09848-GBD-SN Document 274-2 Filed 05/19/11 Page 77 of 138						
17	then I will advise the marshals. And will you advise Nancy					
18	Festinger that we will not need an interpreter on Thursday?					
19	I think the jurors are just about ready.					
20	(Jury present)					
21	THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.					
22	THE JURY: Good morning.					
23	THE COURT: There is a blank looseleaf and a pen on					
24	your seats, should you wish to take notes. Don't feel that					
25	you are compelled to do so. And if you would like to not,					
	161					
	161					
1	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's					
1 2						
	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's					
2	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's simply whatever you think will be of greatest assistance to					
2	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's simply whatever you think will be of greatest assistance to you.					
2 3 4	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's simply whatever you think will be of greatest assistance to you.  We're now in the government's case. Government may					
2 3 4 5	just put them down on the floor. That's fine, too. It's simply whatever you think will be of greatest assistance to you.  We're now in the government's case. Government may call its first witness.					

called as a witness by the government,

THE COURT: All right.

JAMAL AHMED AL-FADL,

8

9

- 11 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
- 12 DEPUTY CLERK: Please state your full name.
- 13 THE WITNESS: My name is Jamal Ahmed Mohamed al-Fadl.
- 14 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 15 BY MR. FITZGERALD:
- 16 Q. Sir, if you could spell your first name and your last name
- in the English language for the record.
- 18 A. The first name is J-A-M-A-L. The last name is
- 19 A-L-F-A-D-L.
- 20 Q. If you could try to talk as you are doing now into the
- 21 microphone directly in front of you, if you could also speak
- 22 slowly, because of your accent, to make sure that everyone
- 23 understands what you say, and if you could try to pause if you
- 24 use an Arabic word or name so that we can clarify how that is
- 25 spelled.

- 1 Could you tell the jury where you were born and what
- 2 year?
- 3 A. I born in Ruffa City in Sudan.

USA v. Usama Bin Laden - Trial Transcript Day 2
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- 21 A. If you want me explain that, like what I say before here,
- 22 we have something called delegation office, and if I want to
- 23 travel to country, I don't want them to see I come from Sudan,
- one of the delegation officers, he go to the immigration
- 25 airport, and he took me through other way, that's means

- 1 immigration not going to stamp my passport.
- 2 O. Are you familiar with the difference between a Sunni
- 3 Muslim and a Shia Muslim?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Which faith are you?
- 6 A. I am Sunni.
- 7 Q. Can you briefly explain your understanding of what the
- 8 difference is between a Sunni Muslim and a Shia Muslim.
- 9 A. Yes, I understand. Some scholars from Sunni and some
- 10 scholars from Shia, they say the difference is 16 points, 16
- 11 things make the difference between Sunni and Shia.
- 12 Q. Can you give us the example of one or two.
- 13 A. Like in Sunni, when somebody want to married, he need two
- 14 witnesses, and the lady, she have to bring somebody from her

- 15 family, like her dad or brother or uncle. He should be
- 16 present when they make the license for marriage.
- In Shia, they don't use that. If the husband and the
- 18 lady, they agree, they can do it without witness, and they can
- 19 say we want a marriage for five years, and after five years
- 20 we're going to see. This is in Shia, they call it Zawaj al
- 21 Muhda.
- 22 And also the other difference, the Shia, they believe
- 23 they don't want to make jihad until they wait for imam.
- O. I-M-A-M?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Can you explain to the jury your understanding of what an
- 2 imam is.
- 3 A. Imam means leader of the whole Muslim. In Sunni, the
- 4 Sunni people, they can make jihad without imam.
- 5 Q. During the time that you were in the Sudan with al Qaeda,
- 6 did you have any conversations with other members of al Qaeda
- 7 about the relationship between Sunni Muslims and Shia Muslims?

- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Can you tell us who spoke about that?
- 10 A. I remember Abu Fadhl al Makkee and Abu Hajer al Iraqi and
- 11 Abu Fadhl al Iraqi.
- 12 Q. If we can focus on what Abu Hajer al Iraqi said first.
- 13 A. Abu Hajer, he believe, now we got one enemy, the westerns,
- 14 and if we all the Muslims come together and unite together,
- 15 they forget the problems and the differences between them,
- 16 it's better for them to fight one enemy. And he says the Shia
- 17 and the Sunnis, they should come together for focusing in one
- 18 enemy.
- 19 Q. In the Sudan, are most of the Muslims there Sunni or Shia?
- 20 A. Most of the Muslims Sunni.
- 21 Q. Is there a particular country where most of the Shia
- 22 Muslims are?
- 23 A. In Iran, most of the Muslims Shia.
- 24 Q. You mentioned that Abu Fadhl al Iraqi also spoke about the
- 25 difference between Sunni and Shia.

1 A. Yes.

- 2 Q. Do you recall what he said?
- 3 A. I remember he say in Saudi Arabia they got a little Shia,
- 4 and he say if the Sunni and Shia come together and fight one
- 5 enemy, it's better than they fight each other, and he say what
- 6 happened between Iraq and Iran, is there is no reason for
- 7 that.
- 8 Q. Did there ever come a time when a person representing Shia
- 9 Muslims came to Khartoum to meet with al Qaeda members?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Were you present for that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Can you tell us where that meeting occurred?
- 14 A. I remember that meeting in guesthouse in Riyadh.
- 15 Q. Can you describe how the meeting came about and who was
- 16 present.
- 17 A. I remember one guy, his name Ahmed Abdel Rahman Hamadabi.
- 18 He is a Sudani guy.
- 19 O. What was his last name?
- 20 A. Hamadabi. And he Sudani quy, and he is big scholar over
- 21 there. He bring with him other guy, his name Sheikh Nomani.
- 22 Sheikh Nomani got office in Khartoum belong to Iran government

- 23 for Shia Muslims to recruit other people to Shia.
- Q. What happened when Sheikh Nomani came to the guesthouse in
- 25 Riyadh City?

- 1 A. In front there they sit down and some of the higher
- 2 membership, they got meeting and talking with the Sheikh
- 3 Nomani and Hamadabi.
- 4 O. Was Bin Laden there?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Can you tell us what was discussed at that meeting.
- 7 A. They talk about we have to come together and we have to
- 8 forget the problem between each other and each one he should
- 9 respect the other because our enemy is one and because there
- 10 is no reason to fight each other.
- 11 Q. Who did they describe the enemy as being?
- 12 A. They say westerns.
- 13 Q. After that meeting, did there come a time when the Sunni
- 14 and Shia Muslims began to work together with al Qaeda in
- 15 Sudan?
- 16 A. Yes.

- 17 Q. Can you tell us what happened?
- 18 A. I remember --
- MR. SCHMIDT: Objection, your Honor, unless we can
- 20 show a source of information.
- 21 Q. We will rephrase the question.
- 22 How did you learn what happened after the meeting --
- 23 strike that.
- 24 Did you ever speak to anyone who received any
- 25 training from anyone who was a Shia Muslim?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Who did you speak to?
- 3 A. Abu Talha al Sudani and Saif al Islam el Masry.
- 4 Q. Is that the person whose picture you identified after
- 5 lunch?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What did Saif al Islam El Masry tell you?
- 8 A. He say they go to south Lebanon to got training with the
- 9 Shiites over there.

- 10 Q. Did he indicate what Shia group in south Lebanon provided
- 11 the training?
- 12 A. I remember he told me it's called Hezbollah.
- 13 Q. What did Abu Talha tell you?
- 14 A. Abu Talha, he tell me the training is very good, and he
- 15 bring some tapes with him.
- 16 Q. Did Abu Talha tell you what was on the tapes he brought
- 17 back?
- 18 A. I saw one of the tapes, and he tell me they train about
- 19 how to explosives big buildings.
- 20 Q. Did Abu Talha tell you if anyone else went with him for
- 21 this training besides Saif el Masry?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 O. Who was that?
- 24 A. Abu Jaffer el Masry.
- 25 Q. Is that the same Abu Jaffer el Masry that you told us this

- 1 morning was an explosives trainer at the Khalid Ibn Walid camp
- 2 that you attended in Afghanistan?
- 3 A. No, the area that I say he runs Jihad Wal camp.

- 4 O. Is that the same person who was involved in the Jihad Wal
- 5 camp?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you know if anybody else from al Qaeda went --
- 8 A. Also Salem el Masry.
- 9 Q. Was he also a trainer at the Jihad Wal calm?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Anyone else that you recall went to the training?
- 12 A. I remember also he told me Saif al Adel, he went with
- 13 them.
- 14 Q. Do you recall if anyone else went?
- 15 A. No, I don't remember.
- 16 Q. Are you familiar with a section in Khartoum called Hilat
- 17 Koko?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Did you ever travel to the section of Khartoum called
- 20 Hilat Koko with any member of al Qaeda?
- 21 A. Yes, I did.
- 22 Q. Who did you go with?
- 23 A. I remember one time I went with Abu Rida al Suri, and one
- 24 time I went with Abu Hajer al Iraqi.

25 Q. Anyone else?

- 1 A. And one time I went with --
- 2 Q. We will go through that name. M-U-Q-A-D-E-M. Is that a
- 3 name or a title?
- 4 A. No, a title. He got one eagle and one star.
- 5 O. Does that mean he is an officer?
- 6 A. Yes, he is in the army.
- 7 Q. In which army?
- 8 A. Sudanese army.
- 9 O. His name?
- 10 A. Yes. Abdul Baset Hamza.
- 11 Q. Tell us about the time you went to Hilat Koko with Abu
- 12 Hajer al Iraqi, what you discussed.
- 13 A. I learn that in this building they try to make chemical
- 14 weapons with regular weapons.
- 15 Q. Can you explain what you mean by chemical weapons with
- 16 regular weapons.
- 17 A. I remember another guy, he explain more to me about this.
- 18 Q. Who was that?

News Photographs showing the destruction of El Al Flight 1862 on October 4, 1992 outside of Amsterdam, Holland





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UNITED STATES DOLLAR),

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Trailer





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AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BISHKEK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ALMATY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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CIA WASHDC 0000

SECDEF WASHDC 0000

USIA WASHDC 0000

TREASURY DEPT WASHDC 0000

DEA WASHDC 0000

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 231842

LONDON FOR TUELLER, PARIS FOR RAVELING

E.O. 12958: DECL: L2/08/07

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, KWMN, PHUM, SNAR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN: MEETING WITH THE TALIBAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 10486

- 1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY KARL F. INDERFURTH, SA A/S. REASON: 1.5(D).
- 2. (C) SUAAARY: A/S INDERFURTH MET DECEMBER 8 WITH THREE TALIBAN "ACTING MINISTERS," PLUS THE UN "PERMREP DESIGNATE." WE UNDERSTAND THE TALIBAN RECEIVED CONFIDENTIAL

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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INSTRUCTIONS FROM MULLAH OMAR, THEIR SUPREME LEADER, TO
SEEK THIS MEETING. THEY WANTED IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE

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U.S. AND URGED US TO REOPEN OUR EMBASSY IN KABUL. THEY DESCRIBED THEIR EFFORTS TO COOPERATE ON NARCOTICS ISSUES AND ASKED FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN FUNDING CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS. A/S INDERFURTH HOPED THEIR COOPERATION WOULD YIELD VISIBLE RESULTS BUT DESCRIBED THE DRUG ISSUE IN MORAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC TERMS. A/S INDERFURTH STRONGLY STATED U.S. CONCERNS REGARDING GENDER ISSUES. THE TALIBAN RESPONDED THAT THEIR POLICY WAS POPULAR, REFLECTED AFGHAN TRADITION, AND THAT MUCH OF OUR INFORMATION REGARDING THEIR POLICIES TOWARD WOMEN WAS WRONG. A/S INDERFURTH SAID THEY SHOULD INVITE AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM TO VISIT IF THIS WAS

THE CASE; THE TALIBAN AGREED. THE TALIBAN ALSO INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE OPPOSITION AND AGREED ON THE NEED FOR A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT, THOUGH NOT ONE BASED UPON DIVIDING UP MINISTRIES BETWEEN THE FACTIONS. RESPONDING TO TALIBAN CRITICISM ALLEGING A LACK OF CONCERN OVER THE REPORTED SLAUGHTER OF TALIBAN PRISONERS, A/S INDERFURTH READ THEM A VOA EDITORIAL OPPOSING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY EITHER SIDE AND SPECIFICALLY CITING THE REPORTED MASSACRES. ALTHOUGH THE TALIBAN CRITICIZED RABBANI'S HOLD ON THE UN SEAT, THEY AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKING WITH BRAHIMI AND THE UN BUT WARNED THAT TIME WAS SHORT. THE TALIBAN WAS NOT RECEPTIVE TO JOINING IN THE INTRA-AFGHAN DIALOGUE PROCESS. REPEATED THEIR PLEDGE TO PREVENT TERRORISTS FROM USING AFGHANISTAN TO LAUNCH ATTACKS ON OTHERS. THEY STRESSED THEIR EAGERNESS TO SEE THE PIPELINE GO AHEAD BUT WERE WARNED THAT FINANCING WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT PEACE. CONFIDENTIAL

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DELEGATION REPORTEDLY WAS PLEASED WITH THE MEETING AND FRANK DISCUSSION. THEY PROVIDED US WITH A NON-PAPER. (SEE PAPA 18.) END SUMMARY.

3. (C) A/S INDERFURTH, ACCOMPANIED BY PAR DIRECTOR MALINOWSKI AND AFGHAN DESKOFFS RAPOPORT AND HUSHEK, MET WITH THREE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE TALIBAN DELEGATION VISITING THE U.S. UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNOCAL (REFTEL),

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"ACTING MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUSTRY" ARMAD JAN, ACTING MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE" AMIR KHAN MOTTAQI, AND "ACTING MINISTER OF PLANNING" DIN MOHAMMED (AN ETHNIC TAJIK). (INNER SHURA MEMBER MULLAH MOHAMMED GHAUS IS IN OMAHA

B6

DID NOT ACCOMPANY THE GROUP TO WASHINGTON.) TALIBAN "UN PERMREP DESIGNATE" MUJAHID (WHO IS ARMAD JAN'S BROTHER-IN-LAW) ACCOMPANIED THE THREE AND SERVED AS TRANSLATOR. THE GROUP DISTRIBUTED A POSITION PAPER (SEE PAPA 18 FOR TEXT). WE UNDERSTAND THE TALIBAN'S SUPREME AUTHORITY, MULLAH OMAR, ORDERED THE DELEGATION TO SEEK THIS MEETING WITH A/S INDERFURTH.

LET'S BE FRIENDS

4. (C) MOTTAQI, WHO DID MOST OF THE TALKING, EXPRESSED THE TALIBANVS WISH FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH US. HE THANKED US FOR OUR SUPPORT DURING THE FIGHT AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS BUT WARNED THAT RUSSIAN-TRAINED AGENTS WERE STILL WORKING IN AFGHANISTAN. HE WENT ON TO DESCRIBE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY RESISTANCE COMMANDERS AFTER THE RUSSIAN WITHDRAWAL AND

#### CONFIDENTIAL

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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CLAIMED THAT ONLY THE TALIBAN HAD BROUGHT PEACE TO THE PORTIONS OF THE COUNTRY UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

#### DRUGS

5. (C) MOTTAQI DETAILED TALIBAN EFFORTS TO DATE TO COMBAT NARCOTICS: ARIANA AIRLINES IS NO LONGER USED FOR TRAFFICKING; HEROIN LABS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED; THERE ARE NO ADDICTS IN TALIBAN AREAS; AND CANNABIS AND HASHISH CULTIVATION HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. IN CONTRAST, HE NOTED THAT NORTHERN AREAS ARE STILL PERMITTING LABORATORIES TO PROCESS OPIUM. HE WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TALIBAN AND THE UN DRUG CONTROL

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PROGRAM (UNDCP), NOTING IRANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFGHAN DRUG TRADE AND ASKING FOR U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS AND END POPPY CULTIVATION. A/S INDERFURTH WELCOMED THESE STEPS AND THEIR PLEDGE TO WORK WITH UNDCP. HE HOPED TO SEE VISIBLE RESULTS AND MADE THE POINT THAT THIS WAS A MORAL ISSUE AS MUCH AS AN ECONOMIC ONE.

#### GENDER

6. (C) TURNING TO GENDER AND EDUCATION ISSUES, MOTTAQI SAID THAT THERE WERE NOW 1,200,000 AFGHANS IN SCHOOLS INCLUDING 3000 GIRLS IN KABUL. HE ADDED THAT THE REQUIREMENT THAT WOMEN BE VEILED WAS A DEMAND OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE AND THAT THE TALIBAN REGIME WOULD BE OVERTHROWN IF THEY ALTERED IT. HE REPEATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE TALIBAN CONFIDENTIAL

#### CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 06 STATE 231842 111715ZDID NOT WISH TO STOP FEMALE EDUCATION. A/S INDERFURTH RESPONDED THAT WE WERE EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS POINT AND DECLARED THAT MEN AND WOMEN SHOULD HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN LIFE, INCLUDING IN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT. MOTTAQI AGREED, BUT ARGUED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SEXES, NOTING THAT "HARD WORK WAS DONE BY MEN IN YOUR COUNTRY" AND THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN A WOMAN PRESIDENT AND THERE WAS ONLY ONE WOMAN IN THE CABINET (SIC). A/S INDERFURTH CORRECTED HIM AND NOTED THAT A SOCIETY NEEDED THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALL OF ITS MEMBERS TO GO FORWARD. FURTHER, HE SAID OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE TALIBAN WOULD BE INFLUENCED BY ITS BEHAVIOR RELATING TO MEDICAL CARE, EDUCATION, AND OPPORTUNITIES MADE AVAILABLE TO WOMEN. THIS WAS NOT THE U.S. VIEW ALONE BUT WAS HELD BY THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE TALIBAN, HE ARGUED, SHOULD RESPOND TO THIS IN A POSITIVE WAY.

7. (C) MOTTAQI RESPONDED THAT MUCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONMUNITY'S INFORMATION ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF AFGHAN WOMEN WAS WRONG. A/S INDERFURTH RESPONDED THAT THEY SHOULD

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INVITE AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM TO SEE FOR ITSELF. THE U.S. WOULD BE PART OF SUCH A GROUP AND WOULD LIKE TO BE PROVEN WRONG. AHMAD JAN SAID THE TALIBAN WOULD INVITE SUCH A DELEGATION BUT ASKED THAT, BECAUSE OF THE VAST DESTRUCTION IT HAS SUFFERED, WE NOT CONSIDER AFGHANISTAN "A NORMAL COUNTRY." HE WARNED AGAINST APPLYING U.S. STANDARDS. HE NOTED THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN MUCH FEMALE EDUCATION IN THE PAST BUT SAID THAT THE TALIBAN WOULD MOVE "GRADUALLY AND STEADILY" AND EDUCATE THE PEOPLE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION IN ACCORD WITH ISLAMIC TEACHINGS.

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8. (C) A/S INDEREURTH ASKED ABOUT THE TALIBANWS ATTITUDE TOWARD NEGOTIATING WITH THE OPPOSITION, NOTING THAT THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS OF TALKS WITH NIMA HEAD GENERAL DOS TAM. MOTTAQI ANSWERED THAT THE TALIBAN FAVORED TALKS AND HAD SENT IMPORTANT PEOPLE TO SUCH MEETINGS WHILE THE NORTH HAD RESPONDED WITH "LOW-LEVEL PEOPLE WITHOUT AUTHORITY OR CREATIVE IDEAS." HE ADMITTED THAT A "KIND OF NEGOTIATIONS" WAS GOING ON WITH DOS TAM BUT THERE WAS A GENERAL LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST BETWEEN THE TALIBAN AND THEIR OPPONENTS. HE CITED MALIK'S SEIZURE OF A NEGOTIATING TEAM IN MAY IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF. (NOTE: THE NORTH ARGUES, WITH CONSIDERABLE JUSTIFICATION, THAT THEY WERE PART OF AN OCCUPYING FORCE RATHER THAN NEGOTIATORS.)

THE MASS KILLINGS

9. (C) MOTTAQI THEN TURNED TO THE REPORTED 3,000 TALIBAN PRISONERS SLAIN NEAR MAZAR, BLAMING THEIR DEATHS IN PART UPON WORLD COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE OPPOSITION. A/S INDERFURTH RESPONDED, CITING RECENT VOA EDITORIALS, THAT THE U.S. OPPOSED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY ANY SIDE. THE U.S., HE STRESSED, WAS NEUTRAL BETWEEN THE FACTIONS AND

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SUPPORTED A PROCESS LEADING TO A CEASE-FIRE AND NEGOTIATIONS FOR A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT. THE TALIBAN REPRESENTATIVES WERE PLEASED THAT THE U.S. HAD SPOKEN OUT AGAINST THE MASSACRE.

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MOTTAQI AGAIN QUESTIONED THE NEUTRALITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BY CITING THE FACT THAT RABBANI RETAINS THE AFGHAN SEAT IN THE UNGA, ADDING THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD ALSO FAILED TO CONDEMN RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN. A/S INDERFURTH SAID HE WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH THE RUSSIANS NEXT WEEK, ADDING THAT THEY HAD EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TO END THE FIGHTING. HE CITED BRAHIMI'S GROUP AND NOTED THAT THE TALIBAN HAD BEEN GIVEN THE COMMON TALKING POINTS. THEM TO WORK CLOSELY WITH BRAHIMI. MOTTAQI SAID THEY WERE READY TO COOPERATE WITH THE UN ON AFGHANISTAN BUT THAT TIME THEY WERE ALSO READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE OPPOSITION, EVEN THOUGH THE RABBANI REGIME HAD CHEATED AND LIED TO THEN. A/S INDERFURTH URGED THEM TO THINK OF THE FUTURE RATHER THAN DWELL ON THE PAST. ON THE UN SEAT, HE SAID IT COULD BE RESOLVED QUICKLY IF THERE WERE A CEASE-FIRE, NEGOTIATIONS, AND A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT. TALIBAN, HE ADDED, WOULD HAVE A MAJOR ROLE IN ANY SUCH GOVERNMENT. BUT IT COULDN'T HAVE THE ONLY ROLE AND RECEIVE U.S. RECOGNITION.

DEMINING/RECONSTRUCTION

11. (C) A/S INDERFURTH BRIEFLY DESCRIBED HIS NEW POSITION AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN DEMINING. HE NOTED THAT THE USG HAD GIVEN USD LV MILLION FOR DEMINING IN AFGHANISTAN BUT ADDED THAT FOR AFGHANISTAN TO GET MORE CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR REHABILITATION FROM THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE WAR MUST COME TO AN END. MANY
NATIONS WOULD LIKE TO DO MORE, BUT CANNOT BECAUSE OF THE
CONTINUED FIGHTING. THIS MUST STOP AND A BROAD-BASED
GOVERNMENT BE ESTABLISHED.

12. (C) MOTTAQI RESPONDED THAT THE TALIBAN WANTS PEACE AND IS WILLING TO WORK WITH ANYONE THAT WANTS PEACE. IN A FUTURE GOVERNMENT, ALL GROUPS MUST BE REPRESENTED. (ANMAD JAN LATER ADDED THAT SUCH A GOVERNMENT SHOULD AVOID PARCELING MINISTRIES OUT AMONG THE PARTIES AS IN THE PAST BECAUSE THIS TYPE OF COALITION GOVERNMENT HAD NOT AND WOULD NOT WORK. THE U.S. SIDE AGREED.) HE URGED, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. WORK TO END FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN. HE ASKEDUS TO REOPEN OUR EMBASSY IN KABUL SO WE COULD OBTAIN INFORMATION FIRST HAND. THE U.S., HE SAID, SHOULD STAND WITH AFGHANISTAN, AS WE DID DURING THE RUSSIAN INVASION, OR ELSE THE AFGHAN PEOPLE WILL THINK WE ARE ABANDONING THEM.

#### TERRORISM

13. (C) FOLLOWING A/S INDERFURTH'S DEPARTURE FOR ANOTHER MEETING, PAB DIRECTOR MALINOWSKI RAISED THE ISSUE OF TERRORISM, NOTING THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY SOME INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD RECEIVED TRAINING IN AFGHANISTAN, AND SPECIFICALLY THE CASE OF SAUDI TERRORIST FINANCIER OSAMA BIN LAD IN, NOTING THAT THE TALIBAN HAD PREVIOUSLY PLEDGED THAT THEIR SOIL WOULD NOT BE USED AS A BASE FOR ATTACKS ON OTHERS. HE ASKED FOR A RENEWAL OF THIS COMMITMENT, NOTING CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT BIN LADIN AND OTHERS HAD DAMAGED THE IMAGE OF
AFGHANISTAN IN THE WORLD. MOTTAQI RESPONDED THAT THEY WILL
KEEP THEIR COMMITMENT AND NOT ALLOW AFGHANISTAN TO USE
AFGHANISTAN AS A BASE FOR TERRORISM. DIN MOHAMMED ADDED
THAT IF BIN LADEN WERE EXPELLED, HE WOULD GO TO IRAN AND
CAUSE MORE TROUBLE. AHMAD JAN NOTED THAT THE TALIBAN DID
NOT INVITE BIN LADIN INTO AFGHANISTAN; HE WAS ALREADY IN
NANGARHAR AS A GUEST OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME WHEN THEY TOOK
OVER. THE TALIBAN, HE CLAIMED, HAD STOPPED ALLOWING HIM TO
GIVE PUBLIC INTERVIEWS AND HAD FRUSTRATED IRANIAN AND IRAQI
ATTEMPTS TO GET IN CONTACT WITH HIM.

#### INTRA-AFGHAN DIALOGUE PROCESS

14. (C) MALINOWSKI RAISED THE INTRA-AFGHAN DIALOGUE PROCESS, ASKING IF THERE WERE ANY CHANCE OF OBTAINING TALIBAN REPRESENTATION. DIN MUHAMMAD RESPONDED THAT THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED DID NOT HAVE THE TRUST OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE AND LACKED AUTHORITY, THEREFORE THE TALIBAN COULD NOT BE INVOLVED. MALINOWSKI REPLIED THAT THE PROCESS NEEDED THE TALIBANTS PARTICIPATION TO MOVE AHEAD AND IT DID OFFER SOME PROMISE.

#### CONSULAR PROBLEMS

15. (C) MUJAHID RAISED THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE AFGHAN CONSULATE IN NEW YORK ISSUING PASSPORTS THAT WERE NOT REGISTERED WITH THE (TALIBAN) FOREIGN MINISTRY IN KABUL AND THE FACT THAT BOTH PAKISTAN AND THE TALIBAN DID NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDER THESE DOCUMENTS VALID FOR ONWARD TRAVEL. HE ASKED ABOUT ISSUING PASSPORTS THROUGH HIS OFFICE. THE U.S. SIDE RESPONDED THAT, PER PREVIOUS GUIDANCE, ONLY ACCREDITED

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CONSULAR OFFICERS COULD ISSUE PASSPORTS TO FOREIGN CITIZENS IN THE U.S. WE AGREED TO INVESTIGATE OTHER APPROACHES,

SUCH AS THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING THE DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE AFGHAN EMBASSY IN ISLAMABAD AND TRANSPORTED TO NEW YORK.

PIPELINE

16. (C) ANMAD JAN RAISED THE PIPELINE ISSUE AND SAID THE TALIBAN AND PAKISTAN WERE BOTH EAGER FOR THE OIL AND GAS PIPELINE PROJECT TO GO AHEAD. MALINOWSKI SAID THAT WE ALSO WANTED THE PROJECT TO PROCEED AND DESCRIBED THE BENEFITS IT WOULD PROVIDE AFGHANISTAN AND THE REGION, BUT HE NOTED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY TO BE FINANCED UNLESS THERE WAS PEACE. IN AFGHANISTAN. ABMAD JAN SAID THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROJECT WOULD GIVE AN INCENTIVE TO THE PEACE PROCESS. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT IRANIAN MOTIVATION AND DESIRE TO OBTAIN THE PIPELINE FOR THEMSELVES. HE ADDED THAT THE AFGHAN CENTRAL BANK COULD GUARANTEE THE INVESTMENT. MALINOWSKI REPEATED THAT THE PROJECT NEEDED PEACE IN THE COUNTRY, WARNING THAT AFGHANISTAN HAD LOST A MAJOR OPPORTUNITY IN 1991 FOR ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUED FIGHTING AND HE HOPED IT WOULD NOT LOSE THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS THAT THE PIPELINE WOULD PRODUCE TOO.

17. (C) COMMENT: THE "ACTING MINISTERS" REPORTEDLY WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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PLEASED WITH THE MEETING AND APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION WITH A/S INDERFURTH. THEIR CONCERN OVER THEIR IMAGE IN THE U.S. CAME THROUGH. WE BELIEVE OUR MESSAGE ON GENDER ISSUES, NARCOTICS, COOPERATION WITH THE UN, AND THE NEED FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT ALSO CAME THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WAS THE "ACTING MINISTERS" FIRST TRIP OUTSIDE THE ISLAMIC WORLD AND THAT THEY REPORTEDLY WERE SURPRISED WITH THE DEPTH OF ANTITALIBAN FEELING IN THE WEST AND UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MUST

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BE ADDRESSED. END COMMENT.

18. (U) TEXT OF TALIBAN NON-PAPER (LIGHTLY EDITED FOR STYLE)

#### VIEWPOINTS:

A) THE ISLAMIC STATE OF AFGHANISTAN WANTS FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT AND NON-INTERFERENCE. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE MATERIAL AND MORAL SUPPORT OF THE U.S. TO THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN DURING THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF OUR COUNTRY. THE SUPPORT CAN BE A GOOD FOUNDATION FOR FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN

AND THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE AFGHANS DO NOT FORGET A HAND EXTENDED TO THEM IN TIME OF NEED. WE HOPE THAT, EASED ON GOOD WILL, MULTI-FACETED COOPERATION MAY CONTINUE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE FUTURE.

B) THE ISLAMIC STATE OF AFGHANISTAN HAS EMBARKED ON THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ROAD OF UPROOTING THE EVIL OF TRAFFICKING AND POPPY
CULTIVATION FROM AFGHANISTAN. WE WANT THIS PLAGUE TO BE
EXTERMINATED FOR GOOD. HOWEVER, TO ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK,
WE NEED CROP SUBSTITUTES AND ALTERNATIVE PROJECTS FOR THE
FARMERS. IF THE FARMERS DO NOT HAVE SOUND ALTERNATIVE
MEANS OF OBTAINING INCOME, THEY WILL ONCE AGAIN RETURN TO
POPPY CULTIVATION. THE ISLAMIC STATE SEEKS U.S. FINANCIAL
AND MATERIAL AID TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM.

C) MALE AND FEMALE EDUCATION IS ALSO A KEY ISSUE FACING US. WE ARE NOT ABLE TO SOLVE THE ISSUE BY OURSELVES UNLESS HELPED BY THE U.S. AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FINANCIALLY AND MATERIALLY. OUR ECONOMY IS IN SHAMBLES. THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS DESTROYED. BUILDINGS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS SCHOOLS NEED RECONSTRUCTION. A BUDGET (AID) IS ALSO

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REQUIRED FOR EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES.

D) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY WELL BE AWARE OF 3,000 MEMBERS OF THE TALIBAN ISLAMIC MOVEMENT MASSACRED BY THE SO-CALLED NORTHERN ALLIANCE MILITIA IN LAILY DESERT, NEAR THE TOWN OF SHIBARGHAN IN JOZJAN PROVINCE, NORTH AFGHANISTAN.

ACCORDING TO MAWLAVI TURKESTANI, DOSTAM REPRESENTATIVE IN ISLAMABAD, 1632 TALEBAN IMPRISONED IN SHIBARGHAN WERE TAKEN TO THE LAILY DESERT, WEST OF SHIBARGHAN CITY, AND MASSACRED. ABOUT VOO MEN IMPRISONED IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF AND 372 IMPRISONED IN FARYAB WERE ALSO EXECUTED. THE MEN WHO SURVIVED THE MASSACRES ARE ALIVE IN KABUL. FOR MONTHS NOW, THEY HAVE BEEN THERE TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF THE MASSACRES. SOME PRISONERS REPORTEDLY DIED UNDER TORTURE. WITNESSES SAY THAT MANY MORE PRISONERS WERE SAVAGELY MAIMED AND THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 14 STATE 231842 111715Z LIMBS AMPUTATED BEFORE THEY WERE KILLED. OTHER PRISONERS HAD THEIR BODIES CRUSHED BY TANKS AND BULLDOZERS.

THE MASSACRE HAPPENED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE RABBANI REGIME. AT THE TIME OF THE ATROCITIES, RABBANI CLAIMED TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNTRY. HIS GOVERNMENT WAS BASED IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF. GENERAL MALIK, WHO IS NOW IN IRAN, WAS RABBANIWS FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHIEF OF THE JUMBESH PARTY.

WHEN THE HAIR OF A PERSON IS CUT IN KABUL, THE WHOLE MEDIA IS TALKING ABOUT IT. NOW 3000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED BY THE OPPOSITION MILITIA AND THERE IS NO SERIOUS INTEREST.

THE U.S. ADVOCATES HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. BUT STILL, IT HAS NOT CONDEMNED THE TRAGIC HUMAN HOLOCAUST IN THE LAILY DESERT. THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN NEVER EXPECTED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO BE A SILENT SPECTATOR WHILE THOUSANDS OF AFGHAN MEN AND WOMEN FROM ALL RACIAL BACKGROUNDS ARE MOURNING THE MASSACRE OF THEIR RELATIVES IN AFGHANISTAN. WE WANT YOU FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS TO HELP US BRING THE CULPRITS TO TRIAL AND PROSECUTE THEM ACCORDING

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TO INTERNATIONAL NORMS AND PRINCIPLES.

- E) THE ISLAMIC STATE OF AFGHANISTAN WANTS A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT REPRESENTING ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN. UNFORTUNATELY, COALITION GOVERNMENTS HAVE NEVER WORKED IN AFGHANISTAN. THE ISLAMIC STATE RESPECTS THE RIGHTS OF ALL ETHNIC GROUPS IN AFGHANISTAN AND IS WILLING TO HAVE THEM IN THE GOVERNMENT.
- F) MOSCOW AND TEHRAN ARE PROVIDING MULTI-FACETED AID TO CONFIDENTIAL

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THE OPPOSITION. ARMS WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN THE PERSIAN
LANGUAGE HAVE BEEN SEEN IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF AND BAMIYAN.
TEHRAN HAS SENT AMMUNITION AND ARMS TO THE OPPOSITION BY
MAKING HUNDREDS OF FLIGHTS TO BAMIYAN AND MAZAR-I-SHARIF
AIRPORTS. OTHER LOGISTICAL AIDS HAVE ALSO BEEN GIVEN TO
THE OPPOSITION MILITIA BY IRAN AND RUSSIA. WE WANT A
PRACTICAL U.S. ROLE IN ENDING THE FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN
AFGHANISTAN.

G) THE ISLAMIC STATE BELIEVES THE OPPONENTS ARE CREATING MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ISLAMIC STATE AND THE USA AS WELL AS OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, THE ISLAMIC STATE WANTS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO RESTART ITS EMBASSY IN KABUL IN ORDER TO HAVE FIRST HAND INFORMATION ABOUT THE SITUATION. THIS WILL ALSO HELP OPEN UP A VISTA OF COOPERATION ON WIDE-RANGING MATTERS BETWEEN THE TWO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

END TEXT. TALBOTT

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# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

4 November 2005

TO:

AL SUADI, ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLAH ALI

SUBJECT:

UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE

REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF

AL SUADI, ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLAH ALI

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:

#### a. Commitment

- 1. The detainee attended a mosque in Yemen where he heard about jihad from a Sheikh. An individual urged him to go to Afghanistan to participate in a jihad against the Russians.
- 2. The detainee was urged to help with the jihad and he traveled to Afghanistan near the end of 2000.
- 3. The detainee traveled from Damascus, Syria, to Tehran, Iran to Mashaad, Iran to Tibatt, Iran and then to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

#### b. Training

- 1. In 1990-1991, the detainee completed basic training and served as a volunteer National Guardsman in the Yemen National Guard.
- 2. The detainee received training with the Rocket Propelled Grenade, AK-47, Pulemyot Kalashnikov and a weapon similar to the .50 caliber machine gun. The training took place between 1991-1992.
- 3. The detainee attended the explosives course at the al Farouq training camp in Afghanistan. After graduation, the detainee was chosen as an assistant to teach an explosives course at Tarnak farms.

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SUBJECT: UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF AL SUADI, ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLAH ALI

- c. Other Relevant Data
  - 1. The detainee was seen at a guest house in Kandahar during August 2001.
- 2. The detainee and the others were awaiting training while in Afghanistan. An operative stated that he assumed the detainee was traveling to Chechnya for jihad.
- 3. An operative saw the detainee in January 2002 at a guesthouse in Karachi, Pakistan where the detainee was eventually captured. The operative did not know exactly how the detainee traveled there from Afghanistan, but stated typically, a network of Pakistanis would bring them.
- 4. The detainee was in a Karachi guesthouse for approximately one month before his arrest. During that time, the Yemenis were waiting to travel home to Yemen. All the men had turned their cash, passports and identification over to al Qaida facilitators upon their arrival in Afghanistan, for safekeeping.
- 4. The following primary factors favor release or transfer:
- a. The detainee denied having any knowledge of the attacks prior their execution on 11 September 2001.
- b. The detainee denied having any knowledge of any rumors or plans of future attacks on the United States.
- c. The detainee denied any knowledge of bomb making or explosives instructors. The detainee claimed the entire notion of building a bomb out of homemade materials seemed very strange and foreign to him.
- 5. You will be afforded a meaningful opportunity to be heard and to present information to the Board; this includes an opportunity to be physically present at the proceeding. The Assisting Military Officer (AMO) will assist you in reviewing all relevant and reasonably available unclassified information regarding your case. The AMO is not an advocate for or against continued detention, nor may the AMO form a confidential relationship with you or represent you in any other matter.

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# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

7 October 2005

TO:

KHAIRKHWA, KHIRULLAH SAID WALI

SUBJECT:

UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF KHAIRKHWA, KHIRULLAH SAID WALI

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:
  - a. Commitment
    - 1. The detainee acted as the Pashto spokesman for the Taliban from 1994 to 1999.
- 2. The Taliban chose the detainee to become their spokesperson for BBC and Voice of America. As Taliban spokesperson, the detainee traveled to Chaman, Pakistan, Kandahar, Charasia County of Kabul, and Mazar-e-Sharif.
- 3. While serving as the Taliban spokesperson in Spin Buldak, Afghanistan, the detainee also served as county supervisor in that area.
- 4. The detainee is a former Taliban Interior Minister and was the commander of Taliban forces that took Mazar-e-Sharif in 1996.
- 5. The detainee worked as a Deputy Sheriff in Spin Buldak and knew of shipments of Taliban seized weapons from Mazar-e-Sharif to Khandahar.
- 6. The detainee was trusted by the Taliban to keep order in Herat and to send taxes collected back to Mullah Omar.
- b. Training

The detainee received military training for a short period of time at Camp Marof, near Kandahar, when the detainee was in his teens.

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SUBJECT: UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF KHAIRKHWA, KHIRULLAH SAID WALI

#### c. Connections/Associations

- 1. As Taliban spokesperson, the detainee met many influential Taliban leaders, such as Mullah Omar.
  - 2. The detainee was known to have close ties to Usama Bin Laden.
- 3. In 1996, the detainee attended a meeting in Kandahar. Jihad fighters, Usama Bin Laden and his guest attended the meeting.
- 4. The detainee was appointed by the Taliban as Governor of Herat Province for a twoyear period from about 1999 to 2001. The detainee's job was to improve relations between Iran and the Taliban government.
- 5. On 7 January 2000, the detainer and three other Taliban officials attended a meeting with Iranian and Hizbi Islami-Gulbuddin Hikmatyar faction officials. Present at the meeting were Afghan Hizbi Islami-Gulbuddin leader, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar and Ayman Al-Zawahiri. Topics of discussion included United States intervention in the region, restoration of peace in Afghanistan and strengthening the Taliban's ties with Iran government.
- 6. The detainee visited Mullah Omar for the funeral of Omar's brother, which was sometime in November 2000.
- 7. Mullah Omar approached the detainee prior to the 9/11/2001 attacks and voiced his distrust of Hamid Karzai and Omar's concerns over the detainee's relationship with Karzai.
- 8. In the fall of 2001, the detained met with Mullah Omar for about 10 minutes, outside of Omar's house, across from the Kharq-e-Sharif shrine.
- 9. In November 2001, the detainee met with an Iranian diplomatic delegation. The Iranian government was prepared to offer anti-aircraft weapons to the Taliban for use against the United States and coalition forces operating in Afghanistan.
- 10. On 20 December 2001, the detainee met with Taliban leader Mullah Omar in the Rais-Baghra House in Baghran, Helmand Province.
- 11. When the Taliban lost control of the government, the detainee called Hamid Karzai for advice. The detainee met with one of Karzai's representatives and discussed the new government and the detainee's future safety.

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

7 November 2005

TO:

AL DAYI, OMAR SAID SALIM

SUBJECT:

UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF AL DAYI, OMAR SAID SALIM

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:
  - a. Connections/Associations
- 1. The detainee was given airline tickets and \$500 USD to travel from Yemen to Afghanistan.
  - 2. The detainee stayed in the "Daftar Taliban" in Quetta, Pakistan.
  - 3. The detainee stayed in safehouses in Kandahar and Jalalabad, Afghanistan.
- 4. The detainee relocated from the Jalalabad, Afghanistan safehouse to one of the rear echelon camps in the Tora Bora region. The detainee was shown to his position by Abdul Quduz.
- 5. The detainee was in the Tora Bora region for about a month before he was wounded in the leg by a missile fired at the caves.
- 6. The detainee's name was included in a list of 324 Arabic names, aliases and nationalities recovered from raids on safehouses associated with suspected al Qaida in Karachi, Pakistan.
  - b. Detainee Actions and Statements

The detainee gave his \$500 USD to two others before he was taken to the hospital for treatment of his leg wound. He wanted to prevent the Afghan people from taking his money.

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

DMO Exhibit / Page 1 of 2

# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

12 August 2005

TO:

MUHAMMED, ABDUL MAJID

SUBJECT:

UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF MUHAMMED. ABDUL MAJID

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:
  - a. Commitment
    - 1. The detainee worked for a time as a drug courier between Afghanistan and Iran.
- 2. The detainee had an Afghani person obtain a letter from the Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin allowing the detainee to cross the border from Iran to Afghanistan. The detainee paid 5,000 in Iranian money (NFI).
- 3. Hizb-e Islami Gulbuddin (HIG) has long-established ties with Usama Bin Ladin. HIG founder Gulbuddin Hikmatyar offered to shelter Bin Ladin after the latter fled Sudan in 1996. HIG has staged small attacks in its attempt to force U.S. troops to withdraw from Afghanistan, overthrow the Afghan Transitional Administration (ATA), and establish a fundamentalist state.
  - b. Training

The detainee was in the Iranian army in the 3-4 years before he went to Afghanistan. While in the military he was trained in basic drill and the AK-47.

- 4. The following primary factors favor release or transfer:
  - a. The detainee has been diagnosed with severe borderline personality disorder.
- b. The detainee answered no to questions about belonging to anti U.S. groups, attacking coalition forces, or plans to attack coalition forces if released.

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

DMO Exhibit \_\_\_\_ Page 1 of 2 060360

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

## SUBJECT: UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF PEERZAI, QARI HASAN ULLA

- 3. Haji Sharif Adin worked for Taliban Intelligence Chief, Qari Hamid Ghul, during the Taliban rule.
- 4. Haji Sharif Adin was expected to attend a meeting at the home of Haji Ghul Agha. Agha is responsible for an explosion in front of the Kandahar Mayor's office in May 2002.
- 5. Agha and the Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin are suspected of planning several of the recent bombings in Kandahar and are planning to target U.S. personnel in the near future.
- 6. Hizb-I Islami Gulbuddin (HIG) has long established ties with bin Laden. HIG has staged small attacks in its attempt to force U.S. troops to withdraw from Afghanistan, overthrow the Afghan Transitional Administration, and establish a fundamentalist state.
- 7. The detainee had a working relationship with persons known by him to be associated with the Taliban.

#### c. Other Relevant Data

- 1. The detainee spent 9 years and 4 months in various Iranian prisons for possession of hashish, which he had been trafficking.
- 2. The detainee is extremely evasive and uses multiple resistance techniques. He was likely recruited by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) or the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS), trained and returned to Afghanistan as a collector and for operational use.
- 3. Contacts with al Qaida were said to have been established through the Iranian Ministry Intelligence and Security (MOIS). All Iranian Intelligence Chiefs had contact with al Qaida as of the mid 1990's.
- 4. The following primary factors favor release or transfer:
- a. The detainee denies having any knowledge of the attacks in the U.S. prior to their execution and denies having any knowledge of any rumors or plans of future attacks on the U.S. or U.S. interests.
- b. The detainee states that Usama bin Laden is responsible for his current incarceration and he would like to kill him if he could get his hands on him.
- c. The detainee stated that the current idea of jihad is wrong. He believes that jihad is the spreading of Islam or preaching. Jihad is not brutality and killing.
- 5. You will be afforded a meaningful opportunity to be heard and to present information to the Board; this includes an opportunity to be physically present at the proceeding. The Assisting

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

24 June 2005

TO: AL WADY, HAMOUD ABDULLAH HAMOUD HASSAN

SUBJECT: UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF AL WADY, HAMOUD ABDULLAH HAMOUD HASSAN

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:
  - a. Commitment
    - 1. The detainee traveled to Afghanistan for jihad.
- 2. The detainee was recruited and his travel instructions to Afghanistan were facilitated by Abu Abul Rahman at the Hayel Said Mosque in Adan, Yemen.
  - 3. The detainee also had 2,000 USD of his own money saved for the trip.
  - 4. The detainee traveled to Afghanistan from Yemen via Iran and Syria in early 2001.
- 5. The detainee served as an assistant officer at Kho Ajagir, the Northern Afghanistan Front.
- 6. The detainee has been identified as being part of a group of Yemenis that a foreign government service considered dangerous extremists that was still active in Sana'a in April 2002.
  - b. Training
    - 1. The detainee stayed at the Said Center, a military post in the Bagram area, for 25 days.
- 2. The Said Center Training Camp was a Taliban-run training camp for Arab recruits in route to fight General Dotsam's soldiers to the north of Khonduz, Afghanistan. Training consisted of small arms familiarization and range qualification.

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

DMO Exhibit | Page 1 of 3 | QOOSGL

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

# Department of Defense Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants at US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

4 November 2005

TO:

AL SUADI, ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLAH ALI

SUBJECT:

UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE

REVIEW BOARD IN THE CASE OF

AL SUADI, ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLAH ALI

- 1. An Administrative Review Board will be convened to review your case to determine if your continued detention is necessary.
- 2. The Administrative Review Board will conduct a comprehensive review of all reasonably available and relevant information regarding your case. At the conclusion of this review the Board will make a recommendation to: (1) release you to your home state; (2) transfer you to your home state, with conditions agreed upon by the United States and your home state; or (3) continue your detention under United States control.
- 3. The following primary factors favor continued detention:
  - a. Commitment
- 1. The detained attended a mosque in Yemen where he heard about jihad from a Sheikh. An individual urged him to go to Afghanistan to participate in a jihad against the Russians.
- 2. The detainee was urged to help with the jihad and he traveled to Afghanistan near the end of 2000.
- 3. The detainee traveled from Damascus, Syria, to Tehran, Iran to Mashaad, Iran to Tibatt, Iran and then to Kandahar, Afghanistan.
  - b. Training
- 1. In 1990-1991, the detainee completed basic training and served as a volunteer National Guardsman in the Yemen National Guard.
- 2. The detained received training with the Rocket Propelled Grenade, AK-47, Pulemyot Kalashnikov and a weapon similar to the .50 caliber machine gun. The training took place between 1991-1992.
- 3. The detainee attended the explosives course at the al Farouq training camp in Afghanistan. After graduation, the detainee was chosen as an assistant to teach an explosives course at Tarnak farms.

## **UNCLASSIFIED**

DMO Exhibit 1
Page 1 of 2
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## THE EVIDENCE

ne week before the 9/11 Commission was scheduled to send its final report to the printers in July 2004, Philip D. Zelikow, the Commission's staff director, gathered members together for an unusual briefing.

Commission staff members had discovered a document from U.S. intelligence agency that described in detail Iran's ties to al-Qaeda, he said. It had been buried at the bottom of a huge stack of highly classified documents on other subjects that had been delivered to a special high-security reading room in an undisclosed location in Washington, D.C.

The document was a summary of raw intelligence reports gathered through intercepts and other means, and was uncovered when staff readers—on detail from different intelligence agencies—were turning over rocks before the report went to the printer, just to make sure no worm crawled out. When the chief analyst scanned through the references at the end, he whistled quietly. "There's trouble in River City," he recalls thinking. It footnoted seventy-five distinct source documents, labeled from Capital A to sss.

The commissioners realized that if their report was published and word of the missing documents leaked out later, it would discredit their entire investigation, so they ordered staff to make a last-minute panic run. Zelikow phoned the director of the intelligence agency that had prepared the summary and asked him to dig out all seventy-five source documents. He wanted to send his people over to read them in person the following morning at seven-thirty. He didn't care that it was Sunday. They had to see the documents immediately.

The team leader was a former CIA analyst who had spent decades reading highly classified SIGINT intercepts; he had been chosen for the commission staff because of his cosmic clearances and the breadth of his knowledge of how the vast U.S. intelligence community gathered, sifted, and analyzed raw data.

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The problem was the Concept. Everything the CIA had been telling the commission up until that point was absolutely cut and dried: there was no connection between al-Qaeda and Iran. None, no way. Nada. "We found perplexing the settled CIA position as expressed by Paul Pillar in his book that there was no meaningful connection at all between al-Qaeda and Iran," one commissioner told me when I asked him about this incident.

The documents the team began reading that Sunday morning told a whole different story. After intense negotiations, commissioners agreed to a considerably scaled-back summary of what the staff had found, which appeared on pages 240–241 of the final report (and which is reproduced in this book's appendix).

But that brief summary gives no idea of the scope of the material the CIA had been sitting on, or the sheer number of intelligence reports. That story has never been told until now.

What the team leader found that Sunday morning was nothing less than a complete documented record of operational ties between Iran and al-Qaeda for the critical months just prior to September 11. "The documents showed Iran was facilitating the travel of al-Qaeda operatives, ordering Iranian border inspectors not to put telltale stamps on their passports, thus keeping their travel documents clean" the team leader told me. "The Iranians were fully aware that they were helping operatives who were part of an organization preparing attacks against the United States."

The U.S. intelligence community was also aware of the help Iran was providing bin Laden's men. But because the analysts were driven by the Concept, they consistently downplayed that relationship.

"Old School Ties" was the dismissive title of one post-9/11 analytical report issued by the CIA's CounterTerrorism Center that summarized the early days of bin Laden's cooperation with Iran. It included an account of his meetings in Sudan with Iranian officials in late 1991–1992, and the organizational meetings between bin Laden's Islamic Army Shura (Counsel) and the PLO, Hamas, and Hezbollah, meetings that were brokered by Sudan's Islamist leader Hassan Turabi. Other reports, from January 1997, detailed top bin Laden operatives' travels to Iran and to Hezbollah camps in Lebanon for terrorist training, where bin Laden tasked them to learn the secrets of Hezbollah's speciality: how to set off large, simultaneous truck hombs. (The Iranians obliged and provided that training, the CIA concluded.) "By late 1993, early 1994 there had been a handshake between bin Laden and Iran," the team leader said. A handshake and operational cooperation.

The commission also reviewed CIA documentation on al-Qaeda's connection to Vahidi, Sherafi, and Ahmed al-Mughassil in preparing the

Khobar Towers bombing. Apparently, the information was too sensitive to have been shared with FBI director Louis Freeh, who told reporters after testifying in U.S. District court on the case that al-Qaeda played no role in the attack.<sup>1</sup>

Most troubling among the seventy-five documents the team read that Sunday morning in July were masses of reports on Iranian intelligence operative Imad Mugniyeh, who is described in the 9/11 Commission Report as "a senior Hezbollah operative." The raw reporting showed that well before 9/11, the United States had hard intelligence that the Tehran regime had appointed Mugniyeh as the point man for operational contacts with bin Laden's men. That coincided with the information Zakeri brought to the CIA in Baku four months before the attack.

If anyone had been on the radar screen of U.S. intelligence collectors it was Imad Mugniyeh. Before 9/11, he had killed more Americans than any other terrorist. Putting Mugniyeh together with bin Laden was like throwing a match onto a pile of oil-soaked rags. And yet no alarm bells seemed to have gone off. Mugniyeh is not even named in the final commission report.

The source reports showed that Mugniyeh coordinated the travel of eight to ten of the "muscle hijackers" between Saudi Arabia, Beirut, and Iran in October and November 2000. They revealed that Mugniyeh personally traveled to Saudi Arabia that November and then accompanied muscle hijacker Ahmed al Ghamdi on the plane to Beirut for his trip on to Iran. After that successful dry run, three more muscle hijackers came to Beirut and then flew as a group to Iran, accompanied by one of Mugniyeh's men.

Frustrated by their late discovery of the documents, which prevented them from investigating further, the authors of the 9/11 Commission Report's chapter 7 resorted to irony. It was always possible that so much coordination was simply a "remarkable coincidence" and that "Hezbollah was actually focusing on some other group of individuals traveling from Saudi Arabia during this same time frame, rather than the future hijackers."

Even in its post-9/11 reporting, which Tenet tried unsuccessfully to prevent the commission from reviewing, the CIA simply assumed that the hijackers were traveling through Iran, not to Iran, my sources on the commission said. It was the Concept again.\* The fact that Mugniyeh had become al-Qaeda's travel agent never hit home. "Every time they came up with a

<sup>&</sup>quot;The CIA spin on those trips to Iran is evident in 9/11 and Terrarist Travel, a staff monograph released by the commission at the same time as its main report. It speaks of "lax immigration and border security" in Iran and claims that al-Qaeda resorted to "human smugglers" to arrange travel to and from Afghanistan "through Iran." See inter alia "Exploring the Link between Human Smugglers and Terrorists," p. 61.

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smoking gun, the analysts came back and said, yes, that's interesting, but it's not actionable," one commissioner told me. It was the supreme putdown.

Despite a personal pledge from CIA director George Tenet to provide every assistance and to scour every file, the Agency never briefed the commission on Zakeri's walk-in warning before 9/11. My sources believe Tenet simply didn't know—because no one had ever thought to brief him.

The FBI appears to have been less affected by the Concept, at least during their post-9/11 investigation. They sent teams of Special Agents to the Middle East and Europe and acquired the original passenger manifests that documented the hijackers' travels with Mugniyeh.

U.S. interrogators learned firsthand about Iran's help in facilitating travel of al-Qaeda operatives involved in the 9/11 plot from al-Qaeda planner Khaled Sheikh Mohammad, liaison officer Ramzi Binalshibh, and, more generally, from "Khallad" (Tawfiq Bin Attash). All three were captured by the U.S. after the September 11 attacks. Khallad initially tried to get a U.S. visa so he could take part in the "airplanes" plot but was rejected by U.S. immigration authorities. He helped bomb the USS *Cole* in Yemen in October 2000 instead.

### "TOTAL COLLABORATION WITH THE IRANIANS"

Tarek Charaabi was worried when an al-Qaeda travel "facilitator" told him to use the rat line through Iran. "Isn't there a danger in Iran?" he asked. The facilitator reassured him that al-Qaeda had "total collaboration with the Iranians" and had its own organization in Iran "that takes care of helping the Mujahedin brothers cross the border." Their March 10, 2001, conversation was wire-tapped by Italian police and presented in a Milan court the following year. It helped convict Charaabi and three other Tunisians of having provided logistical support to al-Qaeda in Europe.

Al-Qaeda had switched from using Pakistan as a transit point, the facilitator said, because "in these past years there's too many secret services." Charaabi was instructed to go to the Iranian embassy in London to pick up a visa "because it's very smooth and then everything's well organized all the way to the training camps."<sup>2</sup>

In Hamburg, Germany, a Syrian Muslim brother named Mohammad Haydar Zammar boasted of having recruited 9/11 pilots Mohammad Atta and Ziad Jarrah and encouraging them to join bin Laden's jihad in Afghanistan. When the three-hundred-pound Zammar boasted, people around him took notice.

his intended address as the Marriott Hotel, New York City, but instead spent one night at another New York hotel. He then joined the group of hijackers in Paterson, reuniting with Nawaf al Hazmi after more than a year. With two months remaining, all 19 hijackers were in the United States and ready to take the final steps toward carrying out the attacks. 119

#### Assistance from Hezbollah and Iran to al Qaeda

As we mentioned in chapter 2, while in Sudan, senior managers in al Qaeda maintained contacts with Iran and the Iranian-supported worldwide terrorist organization Hezbollah, which is based mainly in southern Lebanon and Beirut. Al Qaeda members received advice and training from Hezbollah.

Intelligence indicates the persistence of contacts between Iranian security officials and senior al Qaeda figures after Bin Ladin's return to Afghanistan. Khallad has said that Iran made a concerted effort to strengthen relations with al Qaeda after the October 2000 attack on the USS *Cole*, but was rebuffed because Bin Ladin did not want to alienate his supporters in Saudi Arabia. Khallad and other detainees have described the willingness of Iranian officials to facilitate the travel of al Qaeda members through Iran, on their way to and from Afghanistan. For example, Iranian border inspectors would be told not to place telltale stamps in the passports of these travelers. Such arrangements were particularly beneficial to Saudi members of al Qaeda. 120

Our knowledge of the international travels of the al Qaeda operatives selected for the 9/11 operation remains fragmentary. But we now have evidence suggesting that 8 to 10 of the 14 Saudi "muscle" operatives traveled into or out of Iran between October 2000 and February 2001.<sup>121</sup>

In October 2000, a senior operative of Hezbollah visited Saudi Arabia to coordinate activities there. He also planned to assist individuals in Saudi Arabia in traveling to Iran during November. A top Hezbollah commander and Saudi Hezbollah contacts were involved. 122

Also in October 2000, two future muscle hijackers, Mohand al Shehri and Hamza al Ghamdi, flew from Iran to Kuwait. In November, Ahmed al Ghamdi apparently flew to Beirut, traveling—perhaps by coincidence—on the same flight as a senior Hezbollah operative. Also in November, Salem al Hazmi apparently flew from Saudi Arabia to Beirut. 123

In mid-November, we believe, three of the future muscle hijackers, Wail al Shehri, Waleed al Shehri, and Ahmed al Nami, all of whom had obtained their U.S. visas in late October, traveled in a group from Saudi Arabia to Beirut and then onward to Iran. An associate of a senior Hezbollah operative was on the same flight that took the future hijackers to Iran. Hezbollah officials in Beirut and Iran were expecting the arrival of a group during the same time period. The travel of this group was important enough to merit the attention of senior figures in Hezbollah. 124

Later in November, two future muscle hijackers, Satam al Suqami and Majed

Moqed, flew into Iran from Bahrain. In February 2001, Khalid al Mihdhar may have taken a flight from Syria to Iran, and then traveled further within Iran to a point near the Afghan border.<sup>125</sup>

KSM and Binalshibh have confirmed that several of the 9/11 hijackers (at least eight, according to Binalshibh) transited Iran on their way to or from Afghanistan, taking advantage of the Iranian practice of not stamping Saudi passports. They deny any other reason for the hijackers' travel to Iran. They also deny any relationship between the hijackers and Hezbollah. 126

In sum, there is strong evidence that Iran facilitated the transit of al Qaeda members into and out of Afghanistan before 9/11, and that some of these were future 9/11 hijackers. There also is circumstantial evidence that senior Hezbollah operatives were closely tracking the travel of some of these future muscle hijackers into Iran in November 2000. However, we cannot rule out the possibility of a remarkable coincidence—that is, that Hezbollah was actually focusing on some other group of individuals traveling from Saudi Arabia during this same time frame, rather than the future hijackers. 127

We have found no evidence that Iran or Hezbollah was aware of the planning for what later became the 9/11 attack. At the time of their travel through Iran, the al Qaeda operatives themselves were probably not aware of the specific details of their future operation.

After 9/11, Iran and Hezbollah wished to conceal any past evidence of cooperation with Sunni terrorists associated with al Qaeda. A senior Hezbollah official disclaimed any Hezbollah involvement in 9/11.<sup>128</sup>

We believe this topic requires further investigation by the U.S. government.

#### 7.4 FINAL STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

#### Final Preparations in the United States

During the early summer of 2001, Atta, assisted by Shehhi, was busy coordinating the arrival of most of the muscle hijackers in southern Florida—picking them up at the airport, finding them places to stay, and helping them settle in the United States. 129

The majority settled in Florida. Some opened bank accounts, acquired mailboxes, and rented cars. Several also joined local gyms, presumably to stay fit for the operation. Upon first arriving, most stayed in hotels and motels; but by midJune, they settled in shared apartments relatively close to one another and Atta. <sup>130</sup> Though these muscle hijackers did not travel much after arriving in the United States, two of them, Waleed al Shehri and Satam al Suqami, took unusual trips.

On May 19, Shehri and Suqami flew from Fort Lauderdale to Freeport, the Bahamas, where they had reservations at the Bahamas Princess Resort. The two were turned away by Bahamian officials on arrival, however, because they

## **EXHIBIT B-12 REDACTED IN FULL**

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ZD 14 - 31 Tgb.-Nr. 177/01 BAO - USA Wiesbaden, den 23.11.2001 # 13423

#### Betreff

Internationale Fahndung nach Ramzi BINALSHIBH, geb. 01.05.1972 im Jemen, wegen Verdachts der Mitgliedschaft in einer terroristischen Vereinigung in Tateinheit mit Mord und Angriff auf den Luftverkehr

hier: Iran

#### Vermerk

Anhand der vorliegenden Kontounterlagen konnte festgestellt werden, dass Ramzi BINALSHIBH im Dezember 2000 40 .- DM an das Generalkonsulat der "Islamischen Republik (Iran)" überwies.

Ermittlungen ergaben, dass BINALSHIBH am 14.12.2000 ein entsprechendes Visum für eine 4 wöchige Reise in den Iran zu "Pilgerzwecken" stellte.

Wie nun von der politische Abteilung der Iranischen Botschaft Berlin über das Auswärtige Amt fernmündlich mitgeteilt wurde, reiste BINALSHIBH am 31.01.2001 über den internationalen Flughafen Teheran ein.

Eine Ausreise unter diesen Personalien sei jedoch nicht festzustellen, was eventuell für einen illegalen Grenzübertritt möglicherweise nach Afghanistan sprechen könnte. Weitere Informationen konnten nicht erhoben werden.

Es wird in diesem Zusammenhang darauf hingewiesen, dass der polizeiliche Dienstverkehr ( Übermittlungen von personenbezogenen Daten etc.) mit dem Iran derzeit seitens des BMJ untersagt ist. Weitere Informationen können auf polizeilichem Weg nicht erhoben werden.

Da laut Kontounterlagen am 27 / 28.01.2001 Geldabhebungen des BINALSHIBH in Amsterdam nachvollziehbar sind, kann davon ausgegangen werden, dass er von dort in den Iran geflogen ist.

Entsprechende Flugabklärungen werden von hier initiiert.

Leon, Kylk Cuc

000050

ZD 14-31 Ref. No. 177/01 BAO – USA Wiesbaden, 11/23/2001 # 13423

#### Subject

International manhunt for Ramzi BINALSHIBH, born on 05/01/1972 in Yemen, on suspicion of affiliation with a terrorist organization in conjunction with murder and attack on air traffic

Here: Iran

#### Notation

Based on the available account files, it was established that in December 2000 Ramzi BINALSHIBH remitted DM 40.00 to the Consulate General of the "Islamic Republic (of Iran)".

The investigation showed that on 12/14/2000 BINALSHIBH applied for a visa for a 4-week trip to Iran for "pilgrimage purposes".

As the Political Section of the Iranian Embassy in Berlin has now informed by telephone via the Federal Foreign Office, BINALSHIBH entered the country on 01/31/2001 through the International Airport of Tehran.

However, no departure can be found for this personal data, which could indicate an illegal border crossing, possibly to Afghanistan. No further information was available.

In this context, it should be pointed out that police dealings (transfer of personal data etc.) with Iran are presently prohibited by the Federal Ministry of Justice (BMJ). It was not possible to obtain additional information through police channels.

Because account files indicate monetary withdrawals by BINALSHIBH on 01/27 and 01/28/2001 in Amsterdam, it can be assumed that he flew to Iran from there.

The appropriate flight-related clarifications will be initiated from here.

(signed)

Leon, Police Superintendent (KHK)

On the 25<sup>th</sup> October, we, the Public prosecutors in charge of the Prosecutor's Investigation Unit of the AMIA Case, Drs. Alberto Nisman and Marcelo Martinez Burgos, requested the Judge who leads the case, Dr. Rodolfo Canicoba Corral, the issue of national and international arrest warrants of seven Iranian citizens and a Lebanese citizen accused of having different degrees of participation in the terrorist attack perpetrated against the Israeli mutual Central in Buenos Aires on July18<sup>th</sup> 1994.

In our over 800 page presentation – which in some way reflects most of recollection and analysis work done in this Unit since we were designated by the judge in February 2005 to investigate the case – we also expose, amongst other facts, our conviction sustained with plural elements of evidence, that the brutal attack, which caused the death of 85 people, 150 injured at least and numerous material damage, was decided and organized by the highest ranks of the Islamic Republic of Iran government that was ruling then, who themselves entrusted the execution of the operation to the Lebanese Terrorist organization Hezbollah (God's Party), historically subordinated -both politically and economically- to the interests of the Tehran's regime

The people whose arrest warrants we require are: Alí Akbar Rafsanjani, who in 1994 was President of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the then Iranian Minister of Information and Security, Alí Fallahijan; the former Foreign Minister of Iran, Ali Velayati; former Commander of the Revolutionary Guards (Pasdaran) Mohsen Rezai; Ahmad Vahidi, Commander of the "Qods" Force at that time; Mohsen Rabbani, the former cultural attache at the Iranian Embassy in Buenos Aires; Ahmad Reza Asghari or Mohsen Randjbaran, the Iranian embassy's former third secretary, and finally Imad Fayez Moughnieh, the former head of Hizballah's External Service Department.

As regards the Spiritual Leader of the Islamic Nation, taking into account the different instruments of International Law and the unanimous doctrine and judicial precedents on immunity *ratione personae* that gives statutory protection to the Chiefs of State or government that holds office, we have not included him in our indictment.

Due to the extreme solemnity and public importance of the facts that we have been investigating, plus the unusual extension of our report and the technical language used, we have considered convenient to present this document, written in a more accessible language and in which we tried to condense all the most important elements that we have taken into account to ground and well found our accusation. We believe this is necessary not only because of what we have just said, but as a way of satisfying the right of the whole society (which we believe goes hand in hand with a republican and democratic government) to know the most relevant conclusions that arouse from the investigation of an event that has deeply affected the whole society, without a doubt.

On the other hand, presenting an indictment like the one we gave to Your Honour, was for different reasons, urgent. First of all, we must recall that the judge Juan José Galeano, later formally removed from his post as a federal judge for serious irregularities in the process of the case, had already issued national and international warrants for the arrests of twelve Iranian citizens and one Lebanese citizen suspected of having different degrees of involvement in the perpetration of the attack against AMIA.

However, the arrest warrants required by Galeano, except for the one on Imad Moughnieh (on whom already weighted arrest orders from US judicial authorities and Argentina's Supreme Court

executive board, in the framework of the General Assembly of the Agency celebrated in the city of General Assembly of the Agency celebrated in the Control of Co

The decision, in which 115 countries participated, was adopted by 91 votes in favor of the Executive Committee's proposal, 9 votes against it and 15 abstentions. In both occasions - the temporary suspension and the subsequent final cessation— the main reason that INTERPOL authorities alleged to stop searching for the suspects was related to the irregularities committed by the former judge Galeano during the investigation. In the case of the suspension transformed into a virtual cancellation from October 29, 2004-, the note of the Office of Legal Matters that reported it, dated October 3, 2004, remits to the sentence dictated by the Oral Federal and Criminal Court no 3 of this city in the case 437/00 of its registration, named "Telleldín, Carlos Alberto and others s/homicide... (AMIA bombing)", where those accused of conforming the so called "local connection" were judged. The above mentioned note not only stands out the absolution of the twenty-two people that were accused, but transcribes splits of the press release emitted by the cited Oral Court in relation to the pronouncement fallen in the case September 2, 2004, particularly as soon as consigned that "the test produced in the debate permitted to verify a substantial violation to the rules of the Duty of Defense in judgment, when shown the lack of impartiality of the examining magistrate", as well as the fact that "it was established, because of the numerous irregularities verified, that the examining magistrate oriented his action to 'build' an incriminating hypotheses, intending to attend, that way, the requests the society was making and, at the same time, satisfying the interests of unscrupulous rulers".

Without the relevance of such arguments and the ones claimed by the performing officials, it is obvious that what prevailed among INTERPOL authorities was not the Court's resolution but, rather, the distrust generated by the irregular performance of former Judge Galeano that spread through all the legal process. In other words, the reasoning was, more or less, the following: having proved that Dr. Galeano committed irregularities in the case, all his judgings are presumably irregular as well. Thus, it arises clearly from the opinion raised by the executive board to the General Assembly of INTERPOL, proposing the cancellation of the red notices in the following terms: "The executive board notes, particularly, that the halting orders were signed by a magistrate whose intervention in the case was declared irregular by the competent Argentine judicial authorities".

So the decision of canceling the search of the suspects (called "cease of the red notices" in the technical slang) made by the authorities of INTERPOL is practically the same as if the arrest warrants were not effective.

Considering this "virtual non-moving situation", INTERPOL's central authorities have ventured to suggest, through its Legal Office chief, that only new orders of detention signed by a different judge and based on a reexamination of the supporting evidence that support the charges, would be able to justify the re-establishment of the red notice". Until then, the cease of the search of the twelve suspects, that the General Secretary had determined, applies.

What we have just exposed helps to understand better the reasons that motivated the confection of our indictment. Basically, it exposes thoroughly and in detail the conclusions to which we have arrived in this Unit, after more than one year and a half in charge of the case. With the picture left by the resolution of INTERPOL, we did not just build a make up version of the previous requirements, but we did a complete re-examination of the so called "international connection".

This does not mean, of course, that there are no common issues in both requests, because bearing in mind the great amount of information that has been accumulated during the years; it would be nonsense to expect the contrary. However, and ever since the last judge was vice versa, as it is worth saying there are people whose capture opportunely was requested Catalian Cases, in Sur Shior, with the stifficient evidence 05/19/11 Page 123 of 138

The above-mentioned differences are also shown in the accusation performed, so much to the maximum authorities of the former government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as to the Lebanese organization Hezbollah. In fact, while Galeano had limited his resolution to declaring the responsibility of some " radicalized elements of the Iranian State", we, on the other hand, consider proven that the decision to execute the attack was adopted not by a cut off-minority group of partisan officials linked to a more radical Islam, but, on the contrary, it was a decision extensively debated and finally resolved arrived at by consensus by top leaders of the former Iranian government, in a general context of a foreign policy that did not reject the resource of terrorist violence as a tool for achieving the objectives established in the Islamic country starting on the February of 1979 revolution.

In the same direction, corresponds to emphasize the contrast that itself evidences both views in relation to the organization called Hezbollah. Beyond the fact that former Judge Galeano's resolution does not evacuate properly the nature and reaches of the relationship between that group and the Islamic Republic of Iran (relation that we qualify as without hesitation, as of subordination on the part of the Lebanese group to the strategic and political objectives of the Islamic country), the truth is that while Galeano has emphasized the fact that the distinguish if Hezbollah was a "terrorist or resistance movement against the Israeli illegitimate occupation of Lebanon" was not necessary, for us it is evident that the first characterization is the correct one, and so we took special care in clarifying it along the opinion, because that is, exactly, what the great amount of evidence collected in the case reveals.

But beyond these circumstances, that can be considered different appreciations, the relevant thing is that Galeano, unlike us, neither did he attribute direct responsibility of the bombing to Hezbollah, but, rather, some passages of his resolution shows with clarity the doubts that the former judge sheltered in that sense. Thus, for example, when he argued that the referred group that awarded the attack (Ansar Allah) "had a fantasy name, under which shielded itself an Islamic fundamentalist group, presumably linked to the Lebanese Hezbollah", or when, further on, when speaking about the public declarations formulated by Hezbollah leaders before de attack, he argued that even though "they constitute a demonstration of the political speech, guidelines of a political purpose, that do not necessarily evidence a certain way of action (...), in no way these statements imply that Hezbollah as political party have itself been involved, taking initiatives that imply their responsibility", to finalize concluding that "there is not evidence, up to now, that they should have been in knowledge of the plans and, after the attack, have participated of the consequences..."

In another order of ideas, should not be believed -and so is to point out- that the conclusions that will be exposed in the present opinion imply the finalization of the investigation process. There are still many that have been ordered in the various files (for example, an exhaustive telephone-cross over that, together with the Intelligence Bureau is under way, and that comprises an analysis on national and international calls from 1991 on) that is not yet finished, fact that impedes us to go forward with different aspects of the investigation, at the risk of unduly fragmenting the analysis and, thus, to induce to erroneous interpretations.

A last comment, perhaps unnecessary, so as to put an end to this already long preamble. Just as we have advanced, along the present opinion we will show that bombing against the AMIA/DAIA center has been decided and organized by the highest leaders of the former government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, whom at the same time, entrusted its execution to the Lebanese terrorist

organized by the highest ranks of the Islamic Republic of Iran government that was ruling then, who the reserves entrusted the execution of the Chiralinar act to the Cevandse Terrorise organization?

Hezbollah.

Necessarily therefore, along these pages we will see us obliged to graze, when not to undertake directly, questions that have to do with the religious elements, in concrete, with the Islamic religion; or, more properly, with an radicalized interpretation of the Islam. It relates to, without doubts, a sensitive and especially complex matter, that in truth we would prefer to put aside if was not because, by virtue of the reasons that we have just exposed, we are absolutely persuaded that it is not alone is necessary but, what is more, turns out to be inevitable.

What we have just said will be me more easily understood when we head for to describe the special characteristics that gather the theocratic states as the one that reigned in the Islamic Republic of Iran at the time of the attack. In those types of governments, politics and religion are found indissolubly tied, up to the point where the first is conceived in function of the second one. In the concrete case that today occupies us, and though the actual actions of decision, planning and execution of the attack will be put in head of specific individuals, should not loose sight of the fact that many of those were high representatives of a state whose force rests in religious principles, and such circumstance, that constitutes an objective data (can be simply verify in the country's denomination, as well as in specific norms of its constitution), perhaps explains better than no other, the symbiosis between politics and religion that is now intended to be emphasized. Nevertheless, should not be incurred in the banal simplification of supposing that every theocracy, by the sole fact to be it, validates necessarily the use of the terrorism for the attainment of its political objectives, or that the devotion to a specific worship, which ever one it is, carries implicitly the appeal to the violence as a legitimate resource for the propagation of its faith. Nothing further than our intention is to hold that generalization, that besides is notoriously unjust toward millions who cultivate their faith in a peaceful and well deliberate way.

It should remain in clear from the beginning about our strict compliance to unrestricted freedom of worship that our constitution consecrates in its articles 14, 19, 20, and in international treaties incorporated in article 75, clause 22. It should remain clear also that the consideration of the religious thing in itself, like demonstration of a spiritual dimension of the individual, is, as already said, a sensitive and deeply complex matter and, in all cases, absolutely beyond the object of this opinion. And it should also remain clear, finally, our absolute conviction that the Muslim faith encourages and promotes peace and coexistence among all the men, and far away is to promote hatred and barbarism.

Unfortunately, those guidelines have not impeded the fact that, along all times, fanatic and unscrupulous individuals, with the pretext of complying with the duties their faith imposes, appeal to religious excuses to promote the annihilation of their equal. The religious issue returns, then, as a facade, a disguise, a mere alleged reason to disguise facts that, well looked at, do not pass from being, smooth and clear, atrocious crimes.

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It has been proven that the responsibility of the attack against the AMIA center falls on whom, then, exercised the authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It will be shown, in that sense, that its maximum authorities of former Administration were the ones who decided to carry out, plan its implementation and entrusted its execution to the Lebanese terrorist organization Hezbollah, group this last that, acting in the case as a mere appendix of the will of Teheran's government,

Republic of Iran, but, and on the contrary, the study of the antecedents collected in the case Camples, Ostate, Devone and Double that the Uncertainty of The Series In the Case country was not an unusual methodology of its foreign policy, guided by the postulates emanated from the revolution occurred February 1979 and directed, at last, to expand its individual and extremist vision of the Islam around the world.

With that purpose, and just as occurred in the case under study, Teheran's Administration frequently recurred to the operating structure of the Lebanese militia Hezbollah, gestated after the ideals of the Jomeini's revolution, and that with the years has erected as a fundamental instrument for the concreteness of the objectives of the preceding above-mentioned Iranian foreign policy previously evoked. On this particular issue, we will try to stand out the tight subordination relationship existing among the leaders of it cited terrorist group and the government with headquarters in Teheran, to the point that its rise and consolidation cannot be explained without strict attention to the convenience that this represented to the Iranian interests in the region. Such extreme is seen reflected not only in the political-religious plan, with the pointing out of a common enemy, but also, in the regular and never dissembled aid that the Iranian officials offered Hezbollah, so much financial as militarily.

Collecting the evidence in the case, we have managed to say the terrorist attack against the AMIA was framed in the Middle East conflict that has been going on for decades, especially in the ups and downs of the Peace process initiated by the Madrid Peace Conference (1991) and Oslo Peace Accords (1993).

In that context of belligerence, and apart from the evidence that the intention of the attack was to make an accurate strike onto a specific target within in the breast of the Jewish community, as for the particular reasons that Argentina was a favorable place to extend the conflict, there exist, to our judgment, sufficient elements that indicate that it obeyed to the unilateral decision of Argentina's Government to end contracts on the provision of nuclear technology that, previously, had been subscribed with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We have also proved that the decision was made, based on a one hundred and eighty degrees turn operated in the foreign policy of former president Carlos Menem. Argentina was in a neutral position, member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), and this turn caused the abandonment of this position, and enlisted Argentina next to the interests of the maximum enemies of the Iranian clerical regime, that is to say, the United States and Israel.

That was, according to our judgment, the determinant factor for the decision to carry out the ahead the attack against the AMIA center, a decision that was carried out within the so called Special Matters Committee ("Omure Vijeh" Committee, in Farsi), conformed - at the time the attack had been decided -, by Alí Khamenei - Spiritual Guide -, Alí Akbar Rafsanjani -President of the Nation -, Alí Akbar Velayati - Foreign Minister - and Alí Fallahijan - Minister of Information -, in the framework of a meeting celebrated on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1993 in the Iranian city of Mashad. To the meeting were summoned, as consultants, two Iranian representatives that were holding office in Buenos Aires: the chiite clerigy Mohsen Rabbani, sheik of "At-Tauhíd" mosque and later designated cultural attaché of the Islamic Republic in Argentina, and Ahmad Reza Asghari (also known as Mohsen Randjabaran), ex member of the Revolutionary Guards Corps and third Secretary of the Embassy of Iran in Buenos Aires.

The existence of the meeting was recreated by what has been said by some qualified people that in some way, direct or indirectly, have been involved with the Iranian Regime.

Whether they have been part of the government (as former president Abolghassem Bani Sadr, during Khomeini's time), or been in charge of directing the intelligence service (such is the case

in different times and with different political orientations - interesting fact -, but they all agree in GRESubstantial aspects of the meeting, thing that 27 different political orientations - interesting fact -, but they all agree in GRESubstantial aspects of the meeting, thing that 27 different political orientations - interesting fact -, but they all agree in GRESubstantial aspects of the meeting actually took place.

Regarding the proposal approved in the meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> August 1993, as the evidence in the case shows and so we have exposed in our indictment, the preliminary plan to attack our country had its origin in the "Intelligence Office" that depends on the Presidential office, and headed by Rafsanjani himself. We have determined that its integration was completed with Alì Fallahijan, Alí Velayati and the chief of the "Al Qods" force, Ahmad Vahidi and the chief of the Revolutionary Guards Corps (Pasdaran), Mohsen Rezai.

The indictment we elevated also explains the intelligence structure that the Iranian government had in this city at the time of the attack. Without this structure the carrying out of an attack, of the importance of the AMIA center, would have been impossible. It is in this context that we demonstrated that the carrying out and the maintenance of this type of structures in the "infiltrated" countries, was a functional practice and necessary as to fulfill the objectives of the Iranian Exterior policy of that time.

As it will be stated, our country was infiltrated by the Iranian intelligence service, which from mid 80's began forming a vast network of espionage, that was transformed into a complete station of intelligence for whose conformation, its ideologues made use of, on one hand, of the Embassy and the Iranian Cultural Office in Buenos Aires, and of the extremist elements that frequented the shiite mosques of "At-Tauhíd" in the Floresta area, "Al Imán" in the city of Cañuelas and "El Mártir" in the city of San Miguel de Tucumán in the province of the same name; of the undercover business called "G.T.C." and "Imanco", and by radicalized members of the Muslim community, whose action in our country derived in the obtaining of the necessary information and the development of the local logistic operations that supplied the way to executing the attack to the AMIA center on the morning of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1994.

It has been demonstrated, in the indictment, it was the sheik Mohsen Rabbani, (who then became Cultural Attachee in the Iranian Embassy in Argentina) the main creator of this work ever since, in 1983, he arrived to the country and settled the foundation for the espionage structure we have recently mentioned.

All the pieces that conformed this scaffolding have functioned in a cross over way and they have constituted the installation of the intelligence service in our country, with sufficient capacity to organize with success the phase that corresponded to his duty the attack. The explosion of the bomb in the AMIA center verifies this empirical aspect.

In the following paragraphs, it will also be appreciated in detail, in which way, once having adopted the decision to the carry out the attack, the amount of information that flowed between Iran and its Argentinean delegation -basically through officials and diplomatic mail-, currently to significant transfers of money that were made from abroad to a banking account under the name of Rabbani, undisputed leader of the "Mullah" regime in our country, -and perhaps also its more faithful representative, from an ideological perspective- maintained in a private banking entity, involving substantially greater sums compare to those arisen in similar periods analyzed.

When he came back from the meeting where the decision to attack our country was made, and just four months before the criminal act occurred U\$S 150.812 were received there, and a slice of that money U\$S 94.000 was withdrawn before the attack, the rest was withdrawn on the following two months.

Compromising even more a Rabbani with the logistic phase of the attack, indisputable documents exist that, at that time, show him cruising around through diverse car agencies within the capital

to do with the different reasons Rabbani exposed.

attack. The evidence points, likewise, that the one responsible for coordinating the different aspects of the operation from Iran was not another that the former Minister of Information, Alí Fallahijan; and that an identical task, although tight to the strictly operating aspect of the attack, fits to be attributed Imad Moughnieh, former leader of the Exterior Service of Hezbollah. In this sense, reports enclosed in the case allow us to infer that he was responsible for conforming the operating group that had to execute the hit, and whose entrance income to our territory is suitable to be situated in the first days July, 1994, just as the analysis done within this Unit of international phone calls reveals.

In fact, such constancies consent us to infer that the entrance into our country of the operating group, or at least part of it, occurred on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1994 through the international airport of Ezeiza, and that their exit went was produced by the metropolitan airport Jorge Newbery on the same day of the attack, fact that arises after having accredited the existence of diverse phone calls made from public telephones in there installed, and the ones around the AMIA area towards a cell phone number registered in the city of Foz do Iguaçu, Federative Republic of Brazil, at the so called "Tri Border Area", belonging to whom could have got at its charge the coordination process of the members of the terrorist cell that was operating in Buenos Aires at that time.

The produced evidence in the case helped us to show that the mentioned cell phone was used by the person in charge of coordination the performance of the members of the cell in Buenos Aires. In this order of idea, it is to show the fact that calls flow toward that cell phone ceased, gaudy and finally, the same day that the attack occurred

Actually, that July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1994 at 10.30 from public telephone located at the Ezeiza international airport, the first communication towards the cell phone that belonged to the coordinator of the operating group was carried out. A second call was produced at 12.18, from the same airport, although from a different telephone line.

And a third communication to the cell phone indicated was carried out on July 1<sup>st</sup>, at 17.21, this time from a phone booth located at 707 Corrientes Avenue of this city. From the same place, only 6 minutes later, though from another line, a call produced to a member of a clan located in Foz do Iguazu linked -according to the agency of national intelligence- to the group Hezbollah was registered. 9 minutes went by and from the same issuing line a call was produced to an identified Hezbollah office in Beirut -Lebanon-.

A week later, that is to say July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1994 and once again from the public telephone located at 707 Corrientes Avenue a call was verified to the cell phone of the one coordinating the operating group. The communication begun at 9.28 of that day, and from there on, and till 9.47 more than 20 new calls to credited Hezbollah office in Beirut, according to the Intelligence Bureau. It was a matter of an intense exchange of information that coincides exactly with the day in which the third secretary of Iran's Embassy in Argentina, Ahmad Asghari, left the country all of sudden. Ahmad Asghari was one of the people responsible for the attack and was in charge of activating the clandestine nets in the country.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of that same month, Carlos Alberto Telleldín published in a national newspaper a classified notice offering for sale a Trafic SUV of the same characteristics that the one that was later used to perform the attack and that carried out engine no 2831467, which a few days later, was found among the debris of the AMIA building.

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1994 (five days after the publication of the SUV and only three days before the execution of the operation), at approximately 18.00, the car bomb was entered, by a subject

importance given by two insuperable circumstances: the first one, is that the company that Caroline Service 4 from the Caroline and the Caroline and the caroline and the parking of 2 second one, that the communication only took 26 seconds, barely enough time to confirm the success of a fundamental phase of the operation.

The chain of confirmations continues due to the fact that it has been confirmed that around an hour later -exactly at 19.18- a new call was made to the coordinator of the operation in Foz do Iguaçu. The communication was carried out from a public phone booth located at 1744 Nazca Avenue, only twelve blocks away from the referred mosque, "At-Tauhíd", place to where Rabbani had communicated previously. So, it does not result ventured to outline that the information finally was transmitted to the coordinator of the operating group.

Having described briefly the necessary triangulation that, for security reasons local Iranian agents complimented to report that the car bomb had been successfully parked, results clearly, that that has been the SUV vehicle used against the Israeli mutual, likewise, the fact that at all times, the maneuver has been scrupulously looked after by Terrorist members, among them Mohsen Rabbani.

Finally, on July 18<sup>th</sup>, the day of the attack, the last phone call to the coordinator of the operation's cell phone was verified. It is the one performed from the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport at 7.41. It arises with clarity that the task of this part of the group executor had concluded satisfactorily.

Thus, the operation had entered in its final phase. Anticipating the consequences that the commission of the attack would lead to, Teheran's regimen had adopted a series of measures in order to preserve itself and its officials against the eventual accusations that could be set foreseeable. In fact, during March 1994, only four month before the attack, the already several mentioned Rabbani, and despite the fact that he had been working in the country since 1983, he was invested with diplomatic status, acquiring the consequent immunity. In this was, the Iranian authorities showed, thus, to have learned the lesson: on October 1992, Kazem Darabi, whose functions turned out to be analogous to then developed by the Cultural Counselor Mohsen Rabbani in Argentina, was captured in the German city of Berlin for his participation in the attack perpetrated within the bar called "Mykonos" on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1992. As opposed to Rabbani, Darabi then lacked of immunity of arrest, for which nothing could be done to avoid its capture and subsequent condemn.

In that same tonic, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1994, only eighteen days before the attack, Ambassador Hadi Soleimanpour exited the country from the international airport of Ezeiza; a few days later, on July 8<sup>th</sup>, the same would do his personal collaborator in the embassy, Ahmad Reza Asghari. The same would later do, a day before the attack, the Ambassadors of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Chile and in Uruguay, who embarked upon the same flight bounded for the German city of Frankfurt. By then, everything was ready to execute the operation.

July 18, 1994, at 9.53 the Lebanese citizen and active member of the Lebanese organization Hezbollah, Ibrahim Hussein Berro, driving a Renault Trafic loaded with a quantity reckoned between 300 and 400 kilograms of explosives, rose the sidewalk of 633 Pasteur st. and, set against the doors of the AMIA building, detonated that load, producing the total collapse of the building's front part and damages of diverse kind in the adjoining real estate. The attack produced the death of 85 people and wounds of different magnitude in, at least, 151 individuals.

In comparison to the modus operandi carried out in the attack, two years before, directed against another Jewish objective -the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires-, in which the participation of the

allotted themselves the attack here investigated as well as the so the explosion occurred at that Care, 1:03-parameters are likely at the control of 138 parameters and the control of 138 parameters are likely at the control of 138 parameters

As we have demonstrated on our indictment the denomination "Ansar Allah" resulted to be one of the so many fantasy manes with which Hezbollah claimed its attacks. The experience showed, besides, that this modality was habitually utilized by the group with the clear purpose to elude its responsibility in the different actions carried out, fundamentally, outside southern Lebanon, where the conflict met the characteristics of a conventional war.

From there on, the judicial investigation went through, as we have already explained a series of ups and downs, referred mainly to the investigation of the so called "local connection" of the attack. However, at early stages of the investigation, cirmustantial evidence that pointed out to the government of the Islamic republic of Iran and to the Lebanese Hezbollah as the people responsible for the attack begun to appear

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Regarding the responsibility of those who governed Iran by that time, we have demonstrated in our presentation that at least during the first half of the nineties (decade when also two attacks took place in Buenos Aires) terrorist attacks in other countries were not, for the mullahs' regime, a new practice. We have even proved that the regime had an operative methodology implemented with resources from the Iranian burocratic state, what contribute to assure its proven effectiveness. We will come back to this later.

This bureaucracy servile to terror, such as the one Teheran sustained at the time of the attack to the AMIA center, might be hard to understand by a non-specialized reader. However, this is perfectly comprehensible from the logic of the so-called "revolution export".

This concept (that is expressed in more detail in our indictment) is related to one of the fundamental principles that inspired the Iranian revolution that, under the shadow of Ayatollah Khomenei, came to power in Iran on February 1979 and has to do with the never concealed objective of expanding the revolutionary postulates to the rest of the globe. This purpose of universalizing the Islamic chiite doctrine, stated in the Iranian constitutional text, did not only promoted and supported the development of other Islamic groups in the rest of the Middle East countries (Hezbollah among them), but also encouraged in a rather veiled way, the development of terrorist operations against objectives related to the regime traditional enemies, meaning occidental countries in general, and United States and Israel in particular. Both countries were considered by the Islamic fanatics as the incarnation of everything considered vile and despicable by the more radicalized chii doctrine.

The objective of exporting the revolution is stated in the preamble of the Iranian constitution as: "...the Constitution paves the way for the perpetuation of this Revolution in and outside the country, particularly in the area of expansion of international relations with other Islamic and peoples' movements; it tries to prepare the ground for the creation of a single world Ommat (worldwide community), and the perpetuation of the struggle for delivering all the deprived and oppressed nations of the world"

All the available means (economic and infrastructural) are directed towards this objective, including official institutions abroad. The General Secretary of the opposition group "Flag of the Freedom", Manoucher Ganji, expressed during his statement that " it is important the fact that the Islamic Revolution has always maintained that it will carry our terrorist operations abroad, this has never been a secret and that their objective would be Israel and United States."

attitude towards the world is dictated by our religious convictions.

cause for the terrorist attacks. Generally, as results from the different records, each one of these events answered to the need of satisfying political objectives such as weakening the attempt of opposition forces, resisting the occidental countries in the Middle East zone, or just answering by the use of violent means to measures or actions that are considered by the regime itself as aggressive or threatening to their interests. The export of the revolution doctrine does not support the indiscriminate violence itself, but provides a theoretical and doctrinal justification for the use in any case to fulfill the regime strategic objectives.

In the written work we have presented the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2006 to Dr. Canicoba Corral there is a special item to the analysis of several terrorism acts attributed to the Islamic Republic of Iran. From the judicial resolutions emitted as a consequence of these precedents, there is something in common: all of them make the government of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran responsible as organizers or sponsors of the terrorist acts. This evidence represents the most complete proof that the mullahs regime resorts to violence to achieve the exportation of the revolution. This means the oral excesses and veiled threats that the Iranian leaders utter now and then against opposition of the regime and against the government of Israel are not only sayings but translated into particular criminal actions.

Three acts deserve a special reference. The facts are known as "Mykonos", "Radjavi" and "Bakthiar".

The first one happened on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1992: Dr. Sadegh Sharafkandi, General Secretary of the Democratic party of Kurdistan of Iran, and three collaborators Fattah Abdoli, Homayoun Ardalan and Nouri Dekhordi were machined-gunned in the restaurant Mykonos in the city of Berlin, where they have gathered after participating in a Congress of the International Socialist. In the sentence of the Berlin Superior Regional Court of Justice the steps followed by the government of Iran to carry out the attack are described in detail: from the activation of sleeping cells, gathering of information, the decision-making process of the attack and, finally, the execution of the operation. Plus it exposed the relationship between Iran and Hezbollah, considering Hezbollah "an extension of Iran's policy. Not only that, but says Hezbollah was created, financed and supplied with arms, troops and training by Iran. This is not a selfless act performed by Iran, but it is done with the objective of expanding the Islamic revolution throughout Lebanon and to fight the opposition of Iran's Islamic regime." In conclusion, the German Court arrived to the conclusion that the authorities of Iran's government were responsible for the attack. On April 24th 1990 Kazem Radjavi was killed. As he was driving along the Tannay route of the Coppet Commune in Switzerland, he was forced, by two other vehicles, to leave the highway causing him to collide into the entrance of a house located on the 68 of the route. Radjavi was an Iranian former diplomat, former ambassador of United Nations and a mission leader in an Iranian diplomatic operation in Dakar who quitted on April 1981. Radjavi´s brother was Massoud Radjavi, leader of the National Council of Resistance of Iran and chief of the "Moudjahidin" organization, opposition to Khomeini's regime.

The judicial cause of the revealed an important involvement of Iran's government. The Swiss investigators exposed that "taking into account the facts revealed previously (...) we are convinced that one or some of the Iranian official services are directly involved in the murder of Mr. Kazem Radjavi". Following the same line, Junod and Cottier, both inspectors of the Security Police of Geneva, addressed a report to Judge Dr. Chatelain on July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1990, stating "... we are convinced that an Iranian official service is involved in the murders".

established that there were 13 people involved in the preparation and execution of the murder. These people had passports that had been stablished on the same days. Most of the suspects went to Switzerland together, in a direct Teheran-Geneva flight of the Iran-air airline. They had plane tickets that had been issued altogether, one after the other (correlative serial numbers). (...) It was Minister Ali Fallahian the one in charge of commanding all orders and missions, and directing the preciously planned actions.

On August 8<sup>th</sup> 1991 at 11:50 in the residence situated on 37<sup>th</sup> rue Cluseret de Suresnes near Paris, the dead bodies of Chapour Bakthiar (General Secretary of National Resistance Movement of Iran) and his private secretary, Soroush Katibeh. The autopsies revealed the murders took place on August 6th 1991. Bakthiar was mechanically asphyxiated by the crushing and multiple fractures of the larynx, and an external hemorrhage produced by a cutting weapon, whereas Katibeth died by facial suppression and deep wounds the right dorsal region, caused by a cutting weapon.

Bakhtiar had been designated Prime Minister of the imperial government of Iran on January 4th 1979. The Islamic Revolution overthrew Sha Pahlavi's regime on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, and he was forced to go into exhile. He arrived to France, and it was in this country where Bakthiar founded and directed the National Resistance Movement of Iran, an opposition party to Iranian regime.

The detailed analysis of the evidences sent by the French justice shows, not only that the authors that actually carried out the attack were protected by the Iranian state, but that they also used the Iranian state apparatus to fulfill loyally the murder-order given by the governors of that nation. It's the evident benefit that brings the disappearance of one of the main political referents of the opposition of the Islamic regime, the vast resources used in the operation, the easy way in which they gathered false identity cards, the great number of Iranians dedicated to help the suspects to escape and the proven relationship between some of the people involved in the operations and the Iranian government, that clearly demonstrate the responsibility of the higher rank members of the government in the design, planning and execution of a murder so carefully chosen.

-IV-

As we have already said, at the time of the AMIA attack, the execution of a terrorist operation abroad implicated the joint and coordinated activity of different organisms of Iran's government, that acting coordinately each contributed what was needed for the successful execution of the plan. This structure that we have characterized as a "matrix" (word that represents the idea of a pre-fixed mould, model or scheme) worked in a pyramidal way; where the vertex is the Special Affairs Committee, presided by the nation's spiritual guide, then comes (but on the same level) the Intelligence and Security Ministries, Exterior relations, Culture and Islamic Guide and, finally, the Guardians of the Revolution (PASDARAN), where in its sine the feared "Qods force" were in charge of the "special operations" abroad.

Sensible information from intelligence about possible targets, elaboration, deliberation and acceptance of the plan, further specific information on the chosen target, issuing passports; getting visas; assuring diplomatic immunity; getting plane tickets and lodging in the selected country; development of a policy to conceal the criminal act. All this and more was precisely organized, immediately provided and scrupulously monitored by the different offices of the regime that were assigned some kind of responsibility in the attack.

complex apparatus.

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in the case, included: the consular delegations (Iranian diplomats and the embassies also contribute in the gathering of intelligence information, and the follow up of targets that Teheran's regime planned to attacks), the centers of Islamic cult (some mosques, perfectly legal cult centers, were taken advantage as a way of recruiting people by some fanatics and unscrupulous individuals), commercial enterprises (some of them where registered in the country, and had no significant movements for several years) and finally, some of the members of the Muslims communities in the region, that gathered information without being disturbed, cause they had legitimate activities (some of them were taxi-drivers, some students).

The investigation on this case demonstrated that at the time of the attack a system with these characteristics, was actually running in Argentina. The direct evidences that prove this affirmation are stated in a prolonged chapter of the indictment. It's just because of a space issue that we aren't going to reproduce it here.

Needless to say that without the logistics and operating benefits that emerged from the existence of this structure, it wouldn't have been possible to successfully executed a blast of the magnitude of the one we are investigating. Besides the cumulus of evidence that point out to the then government of the Islamic Republic of Iran as responsible for the attack, the intelligence station emerges as an "indication of opportunity", meaning one of the conditions that makes the attack possible.

-V-

As regards the causes that in our opinion determined the attack, in our presentation we explain that regardless the extremist vision about Islam that lay behind each and every violent attack, at the time of the AMIA attack, by the mullahs regime, there have also been some concrete issues, related to the prevailing geopolitical situation that had been taking place in the Middle East, that in some way "justified", in the integrist perverse logic, the accomplishment of the attack in Buenos Aires.

These motives have to do, basically, with the sudden cancellation of the contracts for transferring nuclear technology that had been signed with the Islamic Republic of Iran. This decision, as we explain in the pertinent paragraph of the report, had as a consequence the interference in the nuclear strategy of the mentioned Islamic country. We have also showed that the decision of canceling the contracts responded to a 180° turn that took place in the exterior policy of, the former President Carlos Menem, causing the transforming of Argentina into a nation enrolled with the interests of the main enemies of the Iranian clerical regime, as we have already mentioned the United Estates and Israel, and causing the abandonment of the position of a neutral country member of the Non-Aligned Movement.

In synthesis, here we have in the sudden cancellation of the so-called "nuclear contracts" – fact proven with conclusive evidence – the concurrence of a absolutely likely reason or motive that arises as one of the main circumstantial evidence that we think indicate the involvement of the then government of Iran in the attack

Other episodes related the delicate regional conjuncture that was also taking place in the Middle East at the time of the attack, served as an excellent excuse and definitely opportune to give an internal reason to the organization that would take care of the execution it is elevated like one of the main indications that, in our opinion, indicate the participation of the then government of Iran

decision to commit the crime had already been made.

Israel) and the bombing, by Israelite forces in the first days of June, of a training camp of Hezbollah in Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, causing an undetermined number of casualties (the records in the case file says between 9 to 40 dead people), were part of the Middle East context at the time of the attack.

VΙ

As we have already said other elements that showed the responsibility of the then government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is the fact that in the days proximate to the attack, the Iranian government increased, in a remarkable way and absolutely out of proportion if compared to the historical registers verified in the case, the amount of diplomatic letters and officials (coming from different countries from the globe, such as Germany, Iran, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay) sent to Argentina. This last circumstance is also atypical if compared to previous periods.

It has been demonstrated that by the time the attack happened (as the reports of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina have shown) there was no circumstance, motive or official event that could justify the envoy of so many diplomatic mails. When analyzed altogether with the circumstantial evidence recollected in the cause, it leads to infer that the maneuver that was detected, whether it was used to distract the attraction, to transfer information and/or sensible materials or for both, it was directly motivated by the attack we are studying.

No less suggestive was the sudden exit of the influential former Third Secretary of the Iranian Embassy in Argentina and former PASDARAN member, Ahmad Reza Asghari, according to the evidence collected in the case, whom also took part in the meeting of the "Omure Vijeh Committee" celebrated in Mashad on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1993.

Considering the whole circumstances listed above, we have no other explanation rather than those ones recently clarified, regarding the fact that Asghari, whose originally departure date was October 1994, abandoned it on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1994; better said, exactly ten days before the blast.

In a similar context we can include the simultaneous – and by the way very opportune – departure of the Iranian Ambassadors of the region, in one of the many maneuvers of the Iranian government to move away its officials – and, consequently, themselves – from any possible direct involvement in the attack.

-VII-

We have already indicated several times in this presentation that in order to carry out the terrorist operation decided on August 14<sup>th</sup> 1993, the people in charge of the Special Affaires Committee of the government of Iran used the Chiite Lebanese Hezbollah group, historically subordinated to the interests of the regime of Teherán. The most important evidences in the case that demonstrate the involvement of this terrorist organization in the event we investigate are:

\*Modus operandi:

Car bombing attack with a suicide-bomber inside is the first factor that suggests the responsibility of Hezbollah. In fact, as one of the experts on international terrorism has testified in the case, this spectacular modality is a truly "registered trade mark" of the above mentioned fundamentalist organization. In fact, the long series of similar operations carried out by Hezbollah in Lebanon during the 80's and 90's - stated in another passage of the present document. - confirms this

March 17<sup>un</sup>, 1992, was committed by the organization "Islamic Jihad", Hezbollah's armed-wing. Grand-independent and properties between 270th 2attacks (athough in ore 46an 1374) attacks we should referring to them as true identities: commission place-identity, attacked target-identity and modus operandi-identity) and nearness period between both events —and all the above mentioned details, is clearly another element that allows us to deduce that both attacks were executed by the same terrorist organization.

#### \*Claiming responsibility for the attack:

Only five days after the attack on the AMIA center, the Lebanese newspaper "Al-Nahar" published a press release from an organization called "Ansar Allah", that allotted themselves the attack here investigated as well as the so the explosion occurred the following day, in an Panamanian airline called "Alas Chiricanas".

It was clear now, the repetition of the proceedings used two years ago by the "Islamic Jihad" in order to claim responsibility for the attack against the Israeli Embassy (identical methodology, even the same newspaper). The documents and testimonies obtained in the case (among them, the press conferences by Hezbollah's Assistant Secretary General and second in the organization, Nahim Kassem), later showed that "Ansar Allah" is an non-existing group, being one of the so many fantasy names used by Hezbollah to claim responsibility in this kinds of attacks without directly compromising itself in the hit.

#### \* The suicide bomber:

It has been conclusively established that the Lebanese citizen and member of the Hezbollah, Ibrahim Hussein Berro, was the driver of the Renault Trafic that exploded in front of the AMIA building on July 18<sup>th</sup> 19940, immolating himself in the act. This is not the time to reproduce the great amount of evidences that show what we have just expose, as it has already been deeply developed in a specific part of the indictment.

#### \* Moughnieh:

As it has already been stated, different testimonies indicate former Hezbollah Foreign Security Service responsible, the well known Lebanese terrorist Imad Fayez Moughnieh, as the top person in charge of the planning and coordination of the attack. This clearly gives another element to extend the terrorist group's liability in the blast.

#### \*The public threats of the leaders of Hezbollah:

It would not be reasonable or rational to leave behind the public declarations prompted by Hezbollah leaders, announcing in some way, the operation and its particular way of materialization.

In this order, and in line with what François Gorphe denominates "indication of the previous demonstrations of the crime" two declarations deserve to be emphasized because of the high rank of the author, but -in the second case- for its specific forcefulness.

The first one was attributed to Hezbollah's Spiritual Leader, Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, and was declared soon after Dirani's kidnap. It just stated that the resistance had a lot of oxygen. The enemy had said they had a very long hand, but the Muslims combatants have proven, after the murder of Abbas Moussawi, that their hands can reach to Argentina. Finally, he said the front has extended all over the world and the battle will develop throughout time.

Less descriptive but with similar prophetic content was the threat that Hassan Nasrallah delivered only a month before the attack: "There are a thousand suicidal bombers prepared to attack Israel around the world".

Considering the dimension of the tragedy that only 32 days later knocked down the AMIA center and the evidence collected in this case, it would be little less than absurd to assume that the

The number of proofs and circumstantial evidence stated – all of them with great entity, precision Canal Color Canal Canal Color Canal Can

In addition, these are the same testimonies that, with identical forcefulness, all indicate that the terrorist group, created and sustained - both military and economically - by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, doesn't carried out in an independent way - or at least didn't at the time of the attack- international terrorist operations, not only that, but their participation in this type of episodes, outside Lebanese frontiers, obeyed to directions emanated directly from Teheran's regime.

And it has been proved, indeed, that this is what has happened in our case, in which the proofs gathered indicate the perfectly coordinated intervention of both actors in the attack, and framed in the subordination relationship described by the experts.

-IX-

To sum up, we are absolutely convinced that the circumstances that we deem proven in the indictment allow many key questions that the investigation on the attack pretended to reveal, to be answered.

Actually, we have pointed out the people that decided to attack the AMIA center, when and why. Furthermore, who where the ones in charge of the general coordination of the attack, and who were the ones in charge of the operative phase. We have also individualized the local key people needed, in order to carry out the attack, and the outstanding characteristics of the operative infrastructure, which by handling intelligence and logistics, acted as an essential condition for them to be able to perpetrate successfully the attack.

Nevertheless, it's necessary to state clear, once more, that with the requirement we are doing today it should not be believed -and so is to point out- that implies the finalization of the investigation process. There are still several points of the investigation, in which we are now working in collaboration with other state agencies, in an unstoppable way, and though some important advances have been made, the announcement depends on several diligences that are still pending, any premature conclusions risk of unduly fragmenting the analysis and, thus, to induce to erroneous or interpretations.

What we have just said doesn't mean that there aren't other extremes, due to the amount of circumstances that deem them proven, that can't or won't be communicated in this phase of the investigation. And that is, exactly what we have been trying to do along our indictment. On the one hand, expressing the need to call for the arrest of a group of individuals strongly suspected of having some implication in the attack, and on the other hand, the determination of the responsibilities of the highest authorities, at the time of the attack, of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and of the Lebanese Hezbollah in the attack.

January 16, 2009 hp-1360

#### Treasury Targets Al Qaida Operatives in Iran

**Washington, D.C. -** The U.S. Department of the Treasury today designated four al Qaida associates under Executive Order 13224, which targets terrorists and those providing support to terrorists or acts of terrorism.

"It is important that Iran give a public accounting of how it is meeting its international obligations to constrain al Qaida," said Stuart Levey, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence. "Global efforts to financially isolate al Qaida have made it difficult for the core leadership to raise funds and sustain itself. Nevertheless, al Qaida remains a very dangerous threat, and it is crucial to keep targeting the support lines of al Qaida and its affiliates."

Under E.O. 13224, any assets held by these individuals under U.S. jurisdiction are frozen and U.S. persons are prohibited from engaging in any transactions with the designees.

"Even though individual terrorist attacks are relatively inexpensive to carry out, it costs a great deal of money for al Qaida to operate globally. These realities demand that we keep up the financial pressure against al Qaida and like-minded terrorist organizations," Levey continued. "Designations have a far reaching impact, deterring would-be donors from providing financial support to terrorism and leaving al Qaida leadership struggling to identify much-needed funding resources."

#### **MUSTAFA HAMID**

AKAs: Mustafa Muhammad `Atiya Hamid

Mustafa Atiya Abu Walid al-Misri Abu al-Walid al-Masri

Abu al-Walid Hashim al-Makki

POB: Alexandria, Egypt DOB: March 1945 Nationality: Egyptian

Egyptian Pakistani

Mustafa Hamid is a senior al Qaida associate who served as a primary interlocutor between al Qaida and the Government of Iran. Before the fall of the Taliban, Hamid served as an instructor at a terrorist camp near Jalalabad that trained in the use of explosives. Hamid is the father-in-law of senior al Qaida military commander Sayf al-Adl. He formerly served as a correspondent for a satellite television station, at the request of senior al Qaida leadership. While living in Iran, Hamid was harbored by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), which served as Hamid's point of contact for communications between al Qaida and Iran.

In the mid-1990s, Mustafa Hamid reportedly negotiated a secret relationship between Usama Bin Laden and Iran, allowing many al Qaida members safe transit through Iran to Afghanistan.

In the late 1990s, Mustafa Hamid passed communications between Usama bin Laden and the Government of Iran. When tensions were high between Iran and Afghanistan, Mustafa Hamid traveled multiple times from Kandahar to Tehran as an intermediary for the Taliban.

In late 2001, Mustafa Hamid was in Tehran delivering messages from the Taliban to the Government of Iran. Hamid also negotiated on behalf of al Qaida in an attempt to relocate al Qaida families to Iran. As part of this effort, senior al Qaida member Abu Hafs the Mauritanian traveled with Hamid and two IRGC members to Tehran for meetings. Beginning in late 2001, the family of a senior al Qaida military commander lived with Mustafa Hamid's family in Iran. Separately, in 2002 Mustafa Hamid facilitated contacts between the IRGC and another senior al Qaida military commander. In mid-2003, Mustafa Hamid was arrested in Iran along with other al Qaida members and associates.

#### MUHAMMAD RAB'A AL-SA YID AL-BAHTIYTI

AKAs: Muhammad Mahmud Rabi' al-Zayd al-Bahtiti

Muhammad Mahmud al-Bahtiti Muhammad Rabi' al-Sa'id al-Hatiti Muhammad Rabi' al-Bahtiti

Abu Dujana al-Masri

DOB: 1971

P013 Al-Sharqiyyah, Egypt

Nationality: Egyptian

Pakistani

Muhammad Rab'a al-Sayid al-Bahtiyti is a senior member of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad (EIJ) and an al Qaida operative. Bahtiyti has served as a trusted aide to his father- in-law Ayman al-Zawahiri.

In the mid-1990s, Bahtiyti served on an al Qaida military committee and provided military training that included urban warfare tactics for al Qaida members. Bahtiyti drafted training manuals for al Qaida as well as a book on security that was used as a template for al Qaida's surveillance operations.

In 1995, Bahtiyti reportedly was involved in the bombing of the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad. Pakistan.

After September 11, 2001, Ayman al-Zawahiri instructed Bahtiyti to take al-Zawahiri's family to Iran. Bahtiyti reportedly traveled to Iran with al-Zawahiri's daughters, where he was subsequently responsible for them. In January 2003, while working from Iran, Bahtiyti arranged housing on behalf of al Qaida. Bahtiyti reportedly was arrested by Iranian authorities in mid-2003.

#### ALI SALEH HUSAIN

AKAs: Abu Dahhak

'Ali Salih Husayn al-Dhahak al-Tabuki

Ali Saleh Husain al-Tabuki 'Ali Salih Husayn 'Ula'lah

'Ali Salih Husavn

'Ala'lah Dhahhak al-Tabuki Abu Dhahak al-Yemeni

DOB: Circa 1970

POB: al-Hudaydah, Yemen

Nationality: Yemeni Height 5'9"

Ali Saleh Husain is a senior al Qaida associate who had close relations with Usama bin Laden. Husain was responsible for logistics pertaining to al Qaida-affiliated fighters and acted as an interlocutor between al Qaida and its Chechnyabased affiliates. Husain coordinated with Usama bin Laden on the training of fighters in terrorist camps in Afghanistan who were preparing to travel to Chechnya.

Circa early 2001, Husain reportedly arranged a meeting that included a senior al

Qaida operations chief to discuss operations planned against Israel. In April 2002, al Qaida senior official Abu Zubaydah indicated that the responsibility for operational meetings for attacks against Israel had been handed over to Husain. Husain also was reportedly Abu Zubaydah's secondary point of contact for obtaining fraudulent passports.

In 2001 after the fall of the Taliban, Husain facilitated the move of al Qaida-associated fighters, including an al Qaida military commander, from Afghanistan to Iran. After leaving Afghanistan, Husain was responsible for smuggling al Qaida members and associates via networks in Zahedan, Iran. In early 2002, Husain sent \$20,000 to a senior al Qaida lieutenant who had requested financial assistance. Husain was detained by the Government of Iran in early 2003.

#### SA'AD BIN LADEN

AKAs: Sad Bin Laden

Sa'ad Muhammad Awad Abud

Muhammad Awad

Muhammad 'Awad Adbud Sa'ad Muhammad Baabood Abdul Rahman Al-Kahtane Bin Muhammad Awad Abbud

DOB: 1982

POB: Saudi Arabia
Nationality: Saudi Araibian
Passport No. 520951 (Sudan)
530951 (Sudan)

Sa'ad bin Laden, one of Usama bin Laden's sons, has been involved in al Qaida activities. For example, in late 2001, Sa'ad facilitated the travel of Usama bin Laden's family members from Afghanistan to Iran. Sa'ad made key decisions for al Qaida and was part of a small group of al Qaeda members that was involved in managing the terrorist organization from Iran. He was arrested by Iranian authorities in early 2003.

As of September 2008, it was possible that Sa'ad bin Laden was no longer in Iranian custody.